

Portfolio

£22,000 to be won

There is £22,000 available to be won in The Times Portfolio competition today - the weekly prize of £20,000, together with today's daily prize of £2,000. Yesterday's £2,000 prize was shared by ten winners. They were: Mr Alexis Jones of Birmingham, Mr Peter Harris of Coventry, Mr Allan Thomas of Leominster, Herefordshire, Mrs Ann Bryden of Witley, Surrey, Mr Dan Timms of Sevenoaks, Kent, Mrs Jeanette Pitt of Crediton, Devon, Mr Ronald Banks of Southfields, London, Mr John Giles of Orpington, Kent, Mrs Barbara Penny of Coombe Down, Bath and Mr Stephen Hill of Reading, Berks. Each received £200. Portfolio list, page 20; prize changes, information service, back page.

French pick new foreign minister

M Roland Dumas, the French government spokesman and a confidant of President Mitterrand, was appointed Foreign Minister in a limited reshuffle last night. He succeeds Mr Claude Cheysson, who is returning to Brussels as an EEC Commissioner. The minister responsible for France's troubled territory of New Caledonia stays on. Page 4

Navy reprimand

The captain of the frigate HMS Jupiter which hit London Bridge last June received a "severe reprimand" at his court martial. Page 3

Astiz for trial

An Argentinean judge has ordered the arrest and trial of Navy Captain Alfredo Astiz in connection with the abduction of a Swedish woman. Page 5

Tutu demands

As anti-apartheid protests spread across America, President Reagan received Bishop Desmond Tutu at the White House. The bishop gave him a list of demands. Page 4



Actor to appeal

Stacy Keach, the actor, who was last night refused bail by a High Court judge, pending his appeal, set for the week after next, against a nine-month jail sentence for smuggling cocaine into Britain. His secretary was also refused bail and her appeal will be heard at the same time. Sentencing, page 3

Belgian jailed

A Belgian bar owner was jailed for three years for shooting dead a young visiting supporter of Tottenham Hotspur. But he could soon be released. Page 5

Licence drive

The BBC is planning a public campaign to win support from TV viewers for an increase in its licence fee. Back page

Student loans

Clearing banks are so opposed to loans for students to meet education costs that any such scheme would probably have to be government-funded. Page 2

£1m frozen

More than £1 million of investors' money has been frozen by the official receiver dealing with the affairs of the licensed deposit taker Eastcheap Investments. Family Money, page 25

Rugby changes

The Rugby Football Union has agreed to the introduction of a divisional championship and to the restructuring of the county game. Page 28

Leader page 7
Letters: On public spending, from Lord Barnett; neighbourhood watch, from Mr R C W Purdell; Church poll, from the Rev Dr D N Samuel.
Leading articles: Tax and poverty; Lome signing; President of the Royal Academy.
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Miss Ethel Mannin, Katy Antonius.

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NCB management crisis erupts as director resigns

Mr Ned Smith, director of industrial relations at the National Coal Board, resigned after several months of disagreement within the NCB.

The appointment was confirmed of Mr Michael Arnold, the senior partner in a City firm of accountants, to replace Mr Herbert Brewer as receiver for the NUM's funds.

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The long-simmering management crisis within the National Coal Board came to the surface last night when Mr Ned Smith, the director of industrial relations, resigned.

Mr Smith, aged 59, left his job after several months of sharp disagreements at the highest level about the conduct of the 39-week-old pit strike over colliery closures. He said: "I have had enough. I am going."

His resignation was accepted at a full meeting of the coal board, and it will take effect at the end of January. Mr Smith's departure comes at a difficult point in the conflict and is bound to be seized on as political capital by the National Union of Mineworkers.

The board's director-general of industrial relations has spent his entire working life in the coalmining industry and it is an open secret at the board's headquarters in London that he does not agree with the style of management introduced by Mr Ian MacGregor, the American chairman.

His place is almost certain to be taken by Mr Kevin Hunt, aged 47, the deputy industrial relations director, who is regarded as more sympathetic to the MacGregor strategy but who

also clashed sharply with the chairman in private.

Mr Smith's resignation from his £42,000-a-year post brings into the open the conflict within the board that so far has largely been concealed. The dispute is about how to deal with a strike that has closed two-thirds of the industry and threatens to go on well into next year.

He was sent on compulsory leave early in October and agreed to take more time off later, just as the coal board was negotiating a deal to avert the strike threatened by the pit deputies' union Nacods.

Those confrontations came after disagreements about the so-called "balance sheet mentality" behind the proposed colliery closures and the use of outside media and policy consultants to shape the board's strategy to end the strike.

Colleagues of Mr Smith argue privately that his resignation is just the tip of an iceberg of discontent at Hobart House, the board's head office in Victoria.

It came to light briefly when Mr Geoffrey Kirk, director of public relations, took early retirement a month ago and strongly criticized the chairman's management style.

"I suppose he has had a long career in the United States and

maybe he is unaccustomed to having people questioning his decisions and pointing out the consequences," said Mr Kirk.

Leaders of the two management unions in the industry, Nacods and the British Association of Colliery Management, are to meet the board next Tuesday, when fresh complaints about the "freezing out" of long-serving managers will be voiced.

At its meeting yesterday, the coal board recorded its gratitude to Mr Smith for his distinguished services to the industry in different capacities over many years and particularly during the present strike.

The shadow Secretary of State for Energy, Mr Stanley Orme, urged the Government last night to order the withdrawal of the pit closure programme in the wake of the dispute about the coal board's accounting procedures.

He said in Ipswich that a report by five leading accountants had shown the accounts system to be "a mine of misinformation". Pits described as uneconomic did not in fact lose money.

Mr Thatcher has described the accountants' report as misleading.

Support by Heffer for Scargill call

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Arthur Scargill's latest call, in the Labour Party's newspaper *Labour Weekly*, for the trade union and Labour movement to mobilize in support of the miners' strike, was yesterday endorsed by Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool Walton and former chairman of the party.

Mr Heffer said that in 1972, when five London dockers were imprisoned after defying the Industrial Relations Court, the Government led by Mr Edward Heath dismissed the dockers after the TUC General Council decided to call the first general strike since 1926.

Taking up Mr Scargill's statement that the decision of the court to appoint a receiver to run the affairs of the NUM was a threat to the Labour movement, Mr Heffer said it was agreed at a meeting between leaders of the NUM and Labour's National Executive Committee on Thursday that there should be stronger action to combat the actions of the courts.

Mr Warren Anderson, chairman of the Union Carbide Corporation, was arrested on arrival in Bhopal yesterday but released six hours later on a personal bond of 25,000 rupees (£2,000). "In all probability he will be asked to leave the country," according to an official of Madhya Pradesh state "at the earliest".

Mr Mahendra said Mr Anderson was not required for any investigation, and there was "never intention of persecuting him".

The arrest of Mr Anderson and seven other company officials, including the chairman, Mr Kesup Mahandra,

High Court confirms receiver for NUM

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Working miners yesterday claimed to have made legal history when a High Court judge confirmed the appointment of a receiver for the funds of the National Union of Mineworkers. The decision, they argued, could have wide ramifications for the labour movement.

The receiver, Mr Michael Arnold, who is a senior partner in a large City firm and who replaced Mr Herbert Brewer, the Derbyshire solicitor, will have control over the union's funds and assets for several months and could continue for up to two years if the union refuses to purge its contempt of court.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, giving judgement in the case brought by 16 working miners, mainly from the Nottinghamshire area, rejected arguments put forward by Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, that the union's officials were only acting on instructions from its national executive committee when they sent the £8.9 million funds to foreign banks.

The judge did that he did not

think there was any other course open to him than to confirm the receivership and the removal of Mr Scargill, Mr Michael McAuley, the union's vice-president, and Mr Peter Heathfield, the general secretary, as trustees of the funds. It was not clear last night whether the NUM intended to appeal against the decision.

Mr Colin Clarke, leader of the working miners, said after the hearing that it was not their intention to halt the union's operations. "All we want to do is stop this money gulling all over the world so that our membership's funds will not be wasted in the future," he said.

Despite that statement, the combination of the operations of the receiver and the sequestrators will mean that the union will find it very difficult to continue normal business.

A decision on how long the receiver will remain at the NUM will depend on whether the union appeals, or not if it is successful in pressing for an expedited full trial of the issue.

Continued on back page, col 6

The Bhopal disaster

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

Carbide chief must flee India

Managing director, Mr U. P. Gokhale, of the Indian subsidiary, was made at the insistence of the State government which controls law and order.

The Central Government intervened, however, to have Mr Anderson released. The US Embassy was also closely in touch with New Delhi. Mr Mahendra and Mr Gokhale are still in custody, after Mr Anderson was flown to Delhi yesterday in a Central Government aircraft.

Mr Anderson said last night: "We were taken to a guesthouse and very politely told we were under house arrest

and had to stay there. We were not able to contact the technical staff we came to see."

A magistrate came in and I was given five charges including criminal negligence. I was subsequently allowed to leave on bail and taken on a government plane here (Delhi), he said.

Commenting on his arrest, he said: "The thing is, we have work to do. But from their point of view we have to be kept out. My immediate concern is to get the people affected immediate disaster relief."

There was at one time a proposal to hand him over to

Continued on back page, col 3

Party tells Chinese Marx's ideas are outdated

Peking (Reuters, AP) - China said yesterday that many of the ideas of Marx and Lenin were outdated and accused ideology specialists in the leadership of delaying progress.

The official *People's Daily* said Mr Deng Xiaoping's reforms were being obstructed by some people who stuck rigidly to the teachings of Marx and Lenin instead of studying economic realities.

In a front-page leading article, the paper told them to look at facts and be quiet for the next three to five years. "It is already 101 years since Marx died, his works were written more than a century ago," it said.

"Some concepts were right at the time and afterwards the situation changed greatly. There

were many things that Marx, Engels and Lenin did not experience or come in contact with.

One cannot take a dogmatic attitude towards Marxism... to take some theories, such as Marx's works in order to limit the richness of contemporary life can only impede the development of history," the newspaper said.

Western diplomats said the article seemed to bear out rumours among Chinese officials that Mr Deng had banned all political campaigns that might impede China's economic development during the next five years.

One diplomat said the article was also a criticism of Mr Deng Lihou, the party's propaganda chief, who last year supported a



Mr Deng Xiaoping: Reforms being obstructed, campaign against "spiritual pollution" from abroad that was used by some leftists to attack current policies. Mr Deng Xiaoping is famous

for his pragmatic approach to economics, summed up by his saying that it does not matter whether a cat is black or white so long as it catches rats. The party has already argued against dogmatism.

The declaration was the latest sign of what foreign observers have called the party's slow, methodical reinterpretation of basic orthodox Communist principles.

"When they say things like this, they are clearly trying to find a theoretical justification for what they are doing," said another Western diplomat. "It goes beyond what they've said before in terms of directness."

Mr Deng's attempts to remould China's economy include encouraging private enterprise, wooing foreign invest-

ment and promoting competition. Mr Deng, who emerged as senior leader two years after the death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976, has reversed most of Mao's radical exhortations.

The material quality of rural Chinese life has sharply increased under Mr Deng's direction, with many peasants multiplying their incomes, building new homes and buying television sets, washing machines, new clothes and other items.

Meanwhile, the Hong Kong newspaper *Ming Pao* reported Mr Hu Yaobang, the party chief, as saying the Communist Party will vote 47 new members on to the Central Committee to avert a succession crisis in its ageing leadership.

Britain tells Iran of concern at hijack

By Our Foreign Staff

Britain has been in touch with Iran to draw attention to its "serious concern" over the killing of hostages from the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner at Tehran airport.

The hijackers have shot dead at least five hostages, although reports on the number have varied. Two Britons, including the pilot, Harry Clark and Neil Beeston, a Kuwaiti Airlines maintenance manager, are among people still on the plane.

A Foreign Office spokesman declined to respond to suggestions that the latest statement - the second this week - indicated that Britain was "not happy" at the way the Iranians were handling the incident.

The statement said: "We regret the tragic loss of innocent lives yesterday. We are drawing the attention of the Iranian Government to our serious concern."

The Kuwaiti Airways Airbus was hijacked on Tuesday. The hijackers are demanding the release of terrorists jailed in Kuwait for bomb blasts.

In Washington, President Reagan criticized Iran, but said he had no evidence of Iranian collaboration. "I have to say, however, that they have not been as helpful as they could be in this situation," he added, without elaborating.

He could not confirm the reported killing of two US officials aboard the plane. The State Department had said it appeared two employees of the US Agency for International Development had been murdered.

The hijackers said the dead Americans were Charles Freud and William Stanford, according to Iran's news agency.

Iran rejected as "irrelevant" what it described as US charges that Tehran was sympathetic with the hijackers.

The family of Mr Beeston were yesterday desperately hoping for his release.

His wife Joyce was being comforted by her two daughters and son at their home in Witley, Surrey. Mr Beeston's stepdaughter Kim, who is a British Airways stewardess, said: "My mum knows that he will be coping with the situation very well and is confident that he is going to be alright. The terrorists have agreed to release some more hostages and we are just hoping dad will be among them."

The hijackers have said they had killed four passengers, but reports by witnesses, Tehran radio and officials at the airport put the number killed since the plane landed at five.

The hijackers listed three Kuwaiti officials they said would be among their next victims.

Debenhams to open on Sundays for Christmas shoppers

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

On the two Sundays before Christmas Debenhams is to open from 10am to 5pm all department stores in England and Wales, with the exception of Harvey Nichols and Harrolds, the toy outlet.

The move, which runs the risk of prosecution under the present trading laws, that the Auld committee recently recommended be scrapped, is likely to bring a rash of Sunday openings by other chains.

The Shopworkers' Union has protested to Debenhams about its decision.

In a letter yesterday to the Debenhams chairman, Mr R. C. Thornton, the union's national officer, Mr Terry Sullivan, reminded him that the Home Secretary had stated that as long as the 1950 Shops Act remained law, shopkeepers were expected to obey it or face prosecution if they opened on Sundays.

Mr Sullivan said: "Over the past few months there have been many calls on trade unionists to obey the law and I would concur that the law should be upheld, but I cannot understand how any group of people, whether they be employers or workers, can select which law they wish to uphold."

Slowly pre-Christmas trading last year, until custom began building up in the past week, has brought pressure on retailers to consider Sunday opening.

The maximum fine is £1,000.

but some local authorities have not taken Sunday opening stores to court and fines have often been as low as £100 or £200.

After the Auld committee recommendations, fewer local authorities may act. But even with the highest fine a large department store would find two busy Sunday's trading commercially worthwhile.

Mr Peter Hindley, Debenhams director of store operations, said last night: "The Sunday trading law as it stands is quite ridiculous and we are anticipating the law will be changed. Obviously if local authorities do take us to court we will accept the consequences and pay the fines."

The Debenhams move is expected to bring similar Sunday openings by other department store groups, and chains such as Woolworth, British Home Stores and multiple grocers are also under pressure to open.

Department store chains such as House of Fraser and Sear's Holdings' Lewis as well as Debenhams, already open their Scottish outlets on Sundays because of less restrictive trading regulations there.

At Sear's, whose stores also include Selfridges in London, Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, chief executive and deputy chairman, said that the group would now consider opening in England and Wales.

THE TIMES

Inside



Call of the wild

The wealth of beauty of beauty and the beasts in Tanzania

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Delights for children

The pick from Santa's sack and the panto theatres

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Changing her tune

Rock star Linda Ronstadt sings Mimi in La Bohème and wins points for courage

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They're after your money

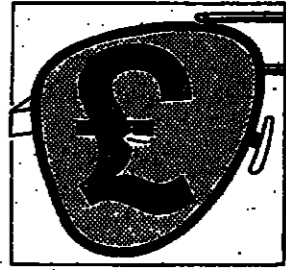
How the City will compete for the growing number of small investors

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Monday

Hard facts on the hard sell

Millions of pounds from public funds are now being spent on advertising



A fight insight

Glasses will be sold over the counter from Monday but will standards fall?

Reagan hint of arms budget cut

Washington (Reuters) - President Reagan said yesterday the Defence Department was not exempt from spending cuts in his drive to reduce massive US budget deficits but no final decisions have been made.

"That's included," he told a press conference when asked if he was examining the Pentagon budget for possible cuts. "We know that's (defence spending) important. We know it's important, across-the-board, to see that everyone participates in trying to achieve this (spending) freeze."

The President said he would discuss arms spending with Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, next week. But a number of key members of Congress have warned Mr Reagan that his spending cut package will fail unless the military also accepts lower spending levels.

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by-election
ories plan
the stops

A Political Editor
defeat him, unless they become
defection candidates in the Labour
stack.

There was no sign of the
black dog which has been
haunting the Labour Party since
its defeat in the 1979 general
election. The party's new
leader, Mr. Michael Foot, was
seen in a relaxed mood, smiling
and joking with his family in
the garden of his home in
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US actor who smuggled drugs into Britain is jailed for nine months

From Our Correspondent, Reading

Stacy Keach, the American film and television actor, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment yesterday after he admitted smuggling £4,500 of cocaine into Britain.

Keach, aged 43, who gave his address as Malibu, California, who is known to British television viewers for his portrayal of Mickey Spillane's private detective, Mike Hammer, pleaded guilty, with his secretary, Deborah Steele, aged 41, to smuggling jointly 36.7 grams of the drug at Heathrow airport, London, on April 3 this year.

Mr Henry Green, for the prosecution, told Reading Crown Court that Keach and his secretary were arrested in the green channel at the airport's terminal two after arriving from France. They had travelled from Marseille.

Mr Green said a customs officer searched a canvas suitcase belonging to Keach and inside a toilet bag found a shaving foam can. The officer pressed the top of the can. Some shaving cream came out and after a few moments it stopped.

"He was asked what was in the can and he said he did not know," Mr Green said. The customs man punctured the aerosol and could see it contained a white powder.

A small amount of cocaine was found inside a handkerchief in Steele's jeans pocket and the drug was also found in two small phials in a string bag belonging to Keach.

Keach said in evidence that he had been taking cocaine regularly since January.

He said: "It was taken as a means of trying to alleviate exhaustion, trying to maintain one's concentration. One of the diabolical things about cocaine is that it gives you a false sense of security and gives you a momentary sense of energy which is immediately followed by depression."

"I can't deny the deep humiliation and embarrassment for what's happened. I am terribly sorry for what has happened, not that I was caught, but that I have caused my family and business colleagues a tremendous sense of anything but pride."

"I only hope that I can make amends by, as a public person, taking a public posture in trying to help other people in rehabilitation."

Mr Richard Du Cann, QC, defending Keach, said that Keach's marriage had broken

up partly as a result of his arrest. He added: "Mr Keach has made a fool of himself. He accepts that he has put himself and others at risk, at real commercial risk. He is wholly to blame. He does not seek to shrink from that."

"He has broken all his links with the drug. He has not touched it from the moment he was stopped. It has been an immensely difficult time for him."

Keach had bought the cocaine in America a fortnight before his arrest for \$3,500, Mr Du Cann said. "He had bought the cocaine because he believed he needed it. There was no question of him having it for social use or social distribution."

Mr Christopher Sumner, for Steele, said she had been Keach's secretary for 15 years and had been subjected to "similar pressures". He said she was a "woman of hitlery good character" who had the cocaine for her own use.

Jailing Keach for nine months and Steele for three months, Judge Murchie said they had committed a grave offence.

He also ordered Keach to pay £500 prosecution costs.



Charity painting: David Poole with his portrait of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. A limited edition of 400 prints of the portrait is to be sold for charity at £300 each (obtainable from Order of St John, 1 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1).

Reprimand for captain whose ship hit bridge

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Now could be a good time for house buying, the Halifax Building Society says in its latest house price index. It argues that, although December is not a popular month for house-hunting, conditions in the market may be turning in the buyer's favour.

"The normal seasonal lull means that in many areas there is a wide range of properties to choose from. Most lenders seem to have a good supply of mortgage funds. House prices will continue to rise, income and employment prospects look somewhat better, and interest rate trends are favourable."

The Halifax predicts an increase of 9 per cent to 10 per cent in house prices next year, about twice the expected general inflation rate, and if as expected interest rates continue to fall mortgage rates could fall into single figures by the end of next year.

"This would mean a cost of borrowing (after tax relief) for most people of no more than 7 per cent, which is less than the rate of increase of house prices."

House prices increased by 8.7 per cent in the 12 months to last month, according to the index, while the rise in the latest three months was 2.5 per cent. In the same three-month period new property prices increased by 0.8 per cent, and first-time-buyers prices by 2.5 per cent in the first 11 months of this year.

There have been marked variations in price rises in different regions during the past year; the increase was, for instance, 11.4 per cent in the South-east, 13.8 per cent in Greater London, 5 per cent in Wales, and 5.8 per cent in the North-west.



Commander Hamilton: Regretted decision

Now could be the time to buy a house

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

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£100 bill for fish killed by chlorine

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Mr Brian Brookes blamed the Anglian Water Authority yesterday for the death of seven of his goldfish. He said his "foul-smelling water" had killed them and sent the authority a bill for £100 compensation.

Mr Brookes, a school caretaker, of Leicester Street, Norwich, said that he was furious when the fish died after he had changed the water in his 15-gallon tank.

He tried to revive them three times with more water from the taps, but still they died. He said: "I was particularly upset at losing my 11-year-old goldfish Sandy which belonged to my father."

Yesterday Mr Brookes was collecting signatures for a petition calling for an independent inquiry into the water supply. He said he was concerned for the health of his family.

Mr Ken Rowe, divisional operations manager for Anglian Water, said that tests had shown that the water at Mr Brookes's house had a relatively higher level of chlorine because of the cold weather; the water was safe.

He added: "We are not here to provide water for fish. Fish don't like chlorine. We have to put chlorine in as a sterilization agent."

Inheritance for man who shot parents

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Charles Ireland, aged 22, who was convicted of killing his parents on their family farm in North Yorkshire, is to collect a large sum from their estate after a long inheritance battle.

A joint statement yesterday by solicitors for Ireland and his elderly grandparents, Mr Jack Knights and his wife Mary, said that they had reached agreed terms after the sale of Ings Farm, near Malton, for £490,000.

Part of the agreement is that neither side discloses the settlement sum, or makes any further comment on the shooting of Charles Ireland, senior, aged 72, and his wife, Joan, aged 36, two years ago.

Their son walked free from York Crown Court in March last year after a jury acquitted him of murder and convicted him of manslaughter on the grounds of provocation and diminished responsibility.

Mr Ireland, who now works on another Yorkshire farm, had made two High Court applications to benefit from the legacy. The Knights had said that they were not concerned about the money, but wanted to deny allegations that their daughter had treated him like a slave.

On the second occasion, Timeframe, which offers a database about retailers, had some of its files tampered with.

The computer "hacker" who electronically broke into and read the Duke of Edinburgh's electronic mailbox last month was interviewed last night by BBC television on its home computer programme, *Micro Live*.

Hackers, unauthorized users of computer systems, are mostly computer enthusiasts who break into the security of computer databases, more for fun than malice.

The BBC "hacker", who was not identified, showed that British Telecom's Prestel system is still vulnerable to penetration by those who are familiar with its files. He also denied that there is a member of British Telecom's staff leaking codes to unauthorized users.

The security of Prestel appears to have been breached at least twice in the past month. On the first occasion the Duke of Edinburgh's mailbox was read. On the second occasion, Timeframe, which offers a database about retailers, had some of its files tampered with.

All five had pleaded not guilty.

Salmon 'facing extinction'

By Ronald Faux

The wild Scottish salmon is under threat of extinction, according to the Salmon Conservancy, a newly formed group of businessmen, land-owners and anglers.

A £210 million industry and 30,000 jobs would be lost with the salmon, the group claims.

The alarm was given in Edinburgh by its chairman Mr Douglas Hume who said that in the 26 principal salmon rivers in Scotland, providing 1,100 miles of fishing, reported catches had fallen by 30 per cent during the past five years.

Laws that protected the salmon were "archaic and inappropriate", and the traditional poaching measure of one for the pot belonged to a past age. Hundreds of tons of fish were now thought to be lost to organized gangs.

The salmon was under attack in its native rivers, at river mouths, and in the North Atlantic feeding grounds, where fishing was increasing.

The group has called for a new approach to save the species, which, it points out, has made a valuable contribution to tourism.

The most recent survey shows Scottish tourism benefiting by £140 million a year, with a further £70 million in Britain generally. Although salmon anglers make up less than 2 per cent of the annual 13 million visitors to Scotland, they account for more than 20 per cent of the earnings.

The group wants licensing of nets and dealers, inspectors with power to enforce quotas and control illegal fishing, and a catch quota that do not penalize the commercial fisherman, but are realistic.

The secretary of the Salmon Conservancy, Miss Harriet Comfort, said yesterday that the group had been formed because of frustration at the failure by other bodies in the salmon business to get effective measures into force.

The group's particular target would be the Northumberland drift net fishery, which was covered by English law although it profoundly affected Scottish salmon.

Coroner told about mother's suspicion

By Michael Bailly, Transport Editor

A woman told an inquest in Birmingham yesterday that she believed foul play was responsible for the death of her adopted son aged 15.

Mark Billington was found dead 10 weeks after he disappeared from his home in Gilbertstone Avenue, Yardley, Birmingham. He was hanging from a tree in woods at Somers Lane, Meriden, about seven miles away.

The police started to look for him after his disappearance on September 1 and searched neighbouring parks and woodland. The search failed to find any trace of the boy's bicycle or of a large kite he was thought to have been carrying.

Mrs Winifred Billington told the inquest that the family heard that the bicycle had been seen leaning against a hedge after he disappeared and that partly hidden pieces of the kite were later found at the bottom of the family's garden, a day after the garden was searched by the police with dogs.

She told the coroner, Dr Richard Whittington, that the boy had loved the bicycle he built himself and felt it was part of him.

A pathologist, Dr Peter Acland, said there were no signs on the body of a struggle or injuries except those caused by the rope.

The hearing continues today.

Extra Gatwick runway sought

By Michael Bailly, Transport Editor

Expansion at Heathrow and Gatwick airports rather than at Stansted should be allowed to grow as a regional airport specializing in charter flights in the way Luton airport does, rather than as a rival to Heathrow and Gatwick.

It wants the Government to allow a second runway at Gatwick and lift the restriction to 275,000 flights a year at Heathrow, instead of authorising Stansted as London's third airport, as it is expected to do next year.

Lord Garmock, chairman of the Air Transport Users' Committee, told a meeting of the committee in London that Stansted should be allowed to grow as a regional airport specializing in charter flights in the way Luton airport does, rather than as a rival to Heathrow and Gatwick.

Present policy, aimed at preventing a second runway at Gatwick, made no sense, he said, because a second terminal was being built there without the runway capacity to fill. Gatwick was the world's busiest one-runway airport, and runway capacity would be exceeded without the second terminal now being built.

The committee criticized the recent government carve-up of routes between British Airways and British Caledonian as being potentially damaging to the air traveller. Instead of a swap between the two big airlines, the Government should have excluded British Airways from regional airports apart from Luton, and allowed smaller airlines to build new hubs from places such as Glasgow, Manchester and Birmingham.

£44,000 for Edward VIII sovereign

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A proof gold sovereign bearing a portrait of Edward VIII and the date 1937 was auctioned at Spink's yesterday for £44,000.

It is part of the preparations for special proof issues for collectors, which were not minted because of the abdication in December 1936. Although dated 1937, it was clearly struck the year before. It may be the only Edward VIII sovereign to have escaped into private hands.

It was consigned for sale by Professor Robert Gibson, whose important collection of sovereigns and half-sovereigns made £165,430 yesterday.

At Christie's the collection of Annamese ceramics, essentially local imitation of Chinese ceramics produced across Southeast Asia, and formed by Mr and Mrs Robert Picus during the past 15 years, realized £388,000 with a 26 per cent profit. The collection has been on the market for a while.

The biggest buyer yesterday was Mr Seijiro Matsuo, who has a private museum. He bought most of the top pieces, including a huge fourteenth century blue and white dragon jar, which made the top price at £108,000 (estimates £60,000 to £90,000).

US drugs chief warns Britain of cocaine risk

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

An American drug expert has warned Britain not to concentrate all its efforts on combating the spread of heroin, ignoring the risks from cocaine, as the United States has done until recently.

The warning came from Mr Frances Mullen, director of the Drug Enforcement Agency, before he left London yesterday after discussions with the police and Home Office officials on drugs.

One result of the visit was an offer by Mr Mullen of the services of his agents in countries where British police lack contacts.

Mr Mullen said that the US had been "caught" by ignoring cocaine and assuming that the drug was not dangerous. He said: "Five years ago people were talking about cocaine being benign. Now there are an estimated one million Americans in need of professional help because of cocaine problems."

The US heroin market had stabilized to about 1.5 million addicts and there were signs that the use of cannabis was slowing down, Mr Mullen said.

Last week figures issued by customs and excise for the financial year ending in March showed record seizures of 62.7 kilos of cocaine in Britain. The year before the figure was 24.3 kilos. In the US the seizures have been far higher.

Two admit part in smuggling arms on ship

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Two of the five men arrested on the gunrunning trawler the Marita Ann from which arms destined for the IRA were seized, admitted yesterday that they were taking part in arms smuggling. A verdict is expected on Tuesday.

Martin Ferris, aged 34, a former member of Sinn Fein's national executive, and John Patrick Crawley, aged 27, an ex-US Marine, were giving sworn evidence at Dublin's anti-terrorist special criminal court.

All five had pleaded not guilty.

The traveller passing westward through the Vale of White Horse in Oxfordshire soon enters a short tract of flat countryside. In the middle there is a sign saying "Borough of Thamesdown."

Like so many of the bland composite names invented in the local government reorganization of the 1970s, it tries to tell you where you are, but fails.

Most of Thamesdown is the Witshire town of Swindon. The rest is a collection of villages and farms round it. But milk quotas and country bus fares are not the only concerns of Thamesdown electors. Under the Government's latest municipal laws this is also rate-capping country.

It would be wrong to assume that rate-capping is aimed only at the inner cities. The curbs on Sheffield and Liverpool will also be imposed on Castle Eaton and Hinton Parva.

There is another respect in which Thamesdown seems an odd target.

One of the motives for rate-capping is that businessmen are deterred from opening offices and factories in areas with exorbitantly high rates. Ministers claim one reason for the high unemployment rate in deprived urban areas is that companies are driven away by high rates.

Rate-capping: 3

Why the axe fell on Hinton Parva

If rate-capping is meant to benefit the inner city, why is it also being aimed at some of the most attractive villages of the Upper Thames? In the last of three articles Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent, explains how rate-capping will affect the countryside.

The amount paid by businesses in Swindon is less than that paid in towns where the councils have not been chosen for rate-capping. Why, then, "cap" Swindon when high-tech firms are ready to occupy its new sites in the heart of the "western corridor" between Heathrow airport and the Bristol Channel?

Thamesdown's Labour-led council is not militant. It has rejected the tactic of some London councils of defying rate-capping by refusing to levy a rate next year, although it remains broadly committed to a policy of "not-compliance".

The Government said in the summer that it had put Thamesdown council on the first list for "capping" because its rates were high compared with those of similar councils. The council retorted that the Government's method of choosing authorities did not take account of Thamesdown's special circumstances.

The town's rapid expansion has been largely financed by the council and private sector, not through a government-ap-

pointed development corporation. The ratepayers of Thamesdown are therefore paying for the "fact" that Swindon had never been classed as a new town.

There is evidence that the Government appreciates Thamesdown's difficulties. Simon Combs, Conservative MP for Swindon, has suggested that the Labour councillors in Thamesdown might learn something to their advantage if they invoked the appeals machinery available.

But there is a price to be paid for an appeal. If a council does so, ministers are legally entitled to exercise detailed control of a council's services, even to the extent of ordering property to be sold. Labour-led councils on the "capping list" have boycotted the appeals machinery because it would invite a measure of extra control by the Government.

There is a suspicion in Swindon, denied in Whitehall, that Thamesdown was placed on the rate-capping list only to be plucked off it. Thamesdown

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The Bhopal disaster

Carbide can pay all claims

From Bailey Morris Washington

Union Carbide Corporation will be able to cover all claims for compensation and damages arising from the leak of poison gas in Bhopal without threatening its financial stability, the company said yesterday.

In a statement designed to calm the fears of nervous financial markets, company officials denied any intention of seeking protection under federal bankruptcy laws, as had been rumoured on Wall Street.

Union Carbide shares have fallen sharply since Monday, dropping in value by \$10.13 a share for an overall decline in market value of about \$44 million. Union Carbide closed at \$38.75 a share on Thursday after another selling spree resulted in a loss of \$5.75 a share.

Company officials tried to reassure the public as legal experts estimated the value of what is expected to be a staggering volume of claims.

Lawsuits are expected on behalf of the Indian Government, the relatives of the 2,000 killed, those injured as a result of the leak, and possibly from those exposed to the gas but who have not yet developed injuries.

Mr Melvin Belli, an attorney who specializes in personal injury cases, said he had already been contacted by relatives of the injured in what is con-

Britain gives urgent medical aid

Medical equipment costing £180,000 is being sent by the British Government to India next week to help treat victims of the Bhopal chemical disaster. It is in response to a request for aid from the British High Commission in Delhi.

Mr Malcolm Kerr Muir, a leading British eye surgeon, is flying out to India today to help the victims of the disaster. He is accompanied by the director of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, Mr Alan Johns. The society has launched an appeal to provide emergency help and rehabilitate those permanently blinded in the disaster.

considered the worst industrial accident in history. He planned to file a suit in San Francisco on their behalf.

The potential scope of the lawsuits has triggered rumours that Union Carbide, America's 37th largest company, would be forced into bankruptcy. But company officials say insurance and other financial resources are adequate.

"Although the Bhopal tragedy is without precedent, Union Carbide is not threatened considering the insurance and other financial resources available," the company said.

Officials declined to name the insurance company.

Meanwhile, both Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Services Inc said they were reviewing the company's debt rating for possible downgrading.

The loss of life and health on a scale unprecedented for an industrial accident makes it impossible to even attempt to quantify the liability, nonetheless, a critical factor will be whether punitive damages, not covered by insurance, will be assessed, Standard & Poor said.

Legal experts said a critical factor will be whether the damages claims are heard in the United States, where awards are large, or in India, where they are generally much lower.

● LONDON: Union Carbide has umbrella liability insurance covering all its factories worldwide (Richard Thomson writes). Arranged by insurance brokers Marsh & McLennan, it is believed to amount to a minimum of \$200 million placed entirely in the US insurance market, although some of it has been reinsured with Lloyd's of London.

New York brokers Merrill Lynch said yesterday that Royal Insurance were the lead insurers in Union Carbide's worldwide liability cover. Royal said it could be called on to pay out anything between £400,000 and £5.4 million depending on the size of claims, though much of it had been reinsured. Commer-

cial Union is also believed to have some exposure to the risk.

The Bhopal plant is also separately insured for a liabilities risk of up to rupees 25 million (£2 million) with the National Insurance Company of India, a state-owned Indian insurer. The risk has been reinsured at Lloyd's.

A spokesman for Bowring, the broker responsible for arranging the reinsurance, said yesterday: "This cover will be a mere drop in the ocean as far as the claims are concerned." The Indian insurers have already made an offer of \$500 for each person who has died and \$100 for each injured victim.

As the company faces the likelihood of thousands of compensation claims, Moody's, the credit rating service, said yesterday it was reviewing Union Carbide's debt ratings, resulting in a possible downgrading. The tragedy "could create a material financial liability for Carbide, given the magnitude of the disaster." At present Union Carbide's debt carries high quality A-ratings from Moody's. But the agency said enough information on potential claims would be available in a few months to reassess the rating.

Legal disputes over responsibility for the disaster and the size of compensation are likely to drag on for years. The first case against the company was filed on Thursday by the State government of Madhya Pradesh



First Family addition: Mr Reagan and his wife Nancy with a puppy given them when the President signed a proclamation calling attention to birth defects. The dog was a gift from Kristen Ellis, aged 6, who appears on a March of Dimes poster appeal for disabled children.

Dumas takes over as Foreign Minister in French reshuffle

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M Roland Dumas, French Minister for European Affairs and Government spokesman, was appointed Foreign Minister yesterday in a limited Government reshuffle which has been widely predicted, but which came a few days earlier than expected.

M Dumas, who is 62, succeeds M Claude Cheysson who is leaving the post he has held since the Socialists came to power in 1981 to return to Brussels as EEC commissioner.

M Dumas will accompany President Mitterrand on his seven-day African trip which begins today.

Mme Catherine Lalumière, aged 40, has been moved from her post as Minister for Consumer Affairs to the Foreign Ministry, and given responsibility for European affairs. But the Cabinet post formerly held by M Dumas has been downgraded to that of junior minister, as it was before M Dumas took over in December 1983.

Mme Georgette Dufour, aged 41, takes over M Dumas's other post as Government spokesman, adding it to her present function as Minister for Solidarity and Social Affairs, while M Henri Emmanuelli, aged 39, adds Mme Lalumière's responsibilities for consumer affairs to his present post as Budget Minister.

Contrary to some rumours, M Georges Lemoine, Minister for France's Overseas Departments and Territories and as such responsible for New Caledonia, is not being moved.

M Jack Lang, Minister for Culture, who was greatly disappointed to see his Ministry downgraded in the last reshuffle in July, now resumes the rank of a full Cabinet minister.

The only real surprise, however, is the appointment of M Gilbert Trigano, aged 64, managing director of the Club Méditerranée since 1963, to a special post with responsibility

for new professional and vocational training.

Two comments are always made about M Dumas: that he is one of President Mitterrand's closest friends and confidants, and as such speaks with his master's voice; and that he possesses formidable powers of persuasion and charm.

M Dumas has known M Mitterrand for nearly 30 years. He joined M Mitterrand's small centrist UDSR party in the mid 1950s.

Jealous colleagues complain that they cannot go to see the President without bumping into M Dumas who is referred to behind his back as *Monsieur le Père Dumas*. But the closeness of his relationship with M Mitterrand is a tremendous advantage in talks with foreigners, who feel he speaks with the authority of his President.

Although M Dumas has had little ministerial experience, having been appointed Minister for European Affairs only a year ago, to which he added the functions of official Government spokesman last June, he brings to his new post all the analytical negotiating and oratorical skills of his lifelong, brilliant career as a lawyer.

He has been involved in many of the most famous cases in recent French legal history.



M Dumas: Speaks with his master's voice.

Front runner emerges at 'Le Monde'

Paris. — M André Fontaine, foreign editor of *Le Monde* and twice disappointed candidate for the editorship, has emerged as front runner to succeed M André Laurens, who resigned as Editor-in-Chief on Wednesday after his economic recovery plan for the troubled paper was rejected (Diana Geddes writes).

A journalist of high repute who turned down an offer from former President Giscard d'Estaing of the post of French Ambassador to Peking, he is considered capable both of obtaining a consensus among editorial staff and of putting forward more acceptable survival plan for the paper.

M Fontaine, who is a youthful 63, has been with *Le Monde* since 1947. Politically, he is near the centre

South Africa says bishops did not consult

Johannesburg. — The South African Police yesterday accused the Roman Catholic Church of deliberately having failed to consult them before the release on Thursday of a report claiming that police had used indiscriminate and wanton violence in countering recent unrest in African townships. (Michael Hornsby writes).

Had consultations been held, a police spokesman in Pretoria said, investigations could have been made into the alleged misdeeds.

Archbishop Denis Hurley, president of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, said on Thursday that an interview had been sought before publication with the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange. But he had been unable to find time for it.

Tutu gives Reagan list of demands

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

As anti-apartheid protests continued to spread across the country, President Reagan yesterday met Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican Bishop-designate of Johannesburg and winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize.

During their 40-minute White House meeting, Bishop Tutu presented the President with a long list of black demands, including an amnesty for political prisoners, an ending of black resettlements and the abandonment of the homeland programme.

The Bishop also said US policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa had not worked and that it had worsened the situation of blacks in South Africa.

President Reagan, who took the unusual step of holding an impromptu press conference after the meeting, disagreed with Bishop Tutu.

"We have made sizable progress there in expressing our repugnance to apartheid. We are going to continue with that policy." But he added that his Administration would look at some of the suggestions Bishop Tutu had made.

It was the President's first meeting with a black South African opposition leader. Their talks also attended by senior members of the Administration, underlined growing concern at the pressure which has been building up for the past two weeks for the US to adopt a tougher stance towards Pretoria.

The most visible aspect of this pressure has been the demonstrations outside the South African Embassy here which led to the arrest of more than 60 liberal Democratic congressmen and civil rights leaders. These protests have spread to South African consulates and embassies in New York, Boston, Los Angeles and other cities.

The move which most concerned the Reagan Administration was a letter 35 conservative Republican congressmen sent to Mr Brand Fourie, the South African Ambassador, on Wednesday, saying they would support diplomatic and economic sanctions unless Pretoria took steps to end apartheid.

The strong warning by these congressmen, who are generally Reagan allies, signalled a significant movement on Capitol Hill for a more aggressive policy on South Africa.

A further sign of growing congressional restiveness came when Senator Richard Lugar (Republican, Indiana), incoming chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, wrote to President Reagan this week, urging him to take a stronger stand against South Africa's racial policies and expressing concern about the detention of 21 black labour leaders.

The warnings are also likely to give impetus to the divestment movement which has been gathering momentum in recent months.

Bomb near barracks kills officer in Spain

Madrid. — A Spanish Army second lieutenant was killed and three soldiers and a woman passer-by seriously injured when three army vehicles ran into a booby-trap near Bilbao yesterday. (Richard Wigg writes).

A bomb went off in a car, parked near the main army barracks in the region, as the soldiers, in a bus in the convoy, were going off duty.

Troops sent into Jammu

Delhi (Reuters). — Troops were ordered into Jammu, capital of India's sensitive Jammu and Kashmir state, yesterday as the nation was hit by new election violence with the murder of a second parliamentary candidate.

Jammu has suffered violence since a member of the fundamentalist Hindu Shiv Sena organization was killed by a Sikh. An independent candidate for an Andhra Pradesh seat was murdered in a family feud.

Naudé job

Johannesburg. — Dr Beyers Naudé, the Dutch Reformed Church priest who spent seven years as a "banned" person because of his outspoken opposition to apartheid, yesterday agreed to serve as secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches for two years. He will assume office on February 1.

Airliner crash

Jacksonville, Florida (AP). — A small twin-engine plane of the Provincetown-Boston Airlines crashed soon after takeoff, killing all 13 people on board. The Federal Aviation Administration temporarily cancelled the airline's operating licence last month, accusing it of safety violations.

Santiago blast

Santiago (Reuters). — A bomb exploded on the Chilean capital's underground railway yesterday, injuring four people and disrupting trains. The blast followed a hand-grenade attack on a paramilitary police post in which one policeman died and another was seriously wounded.

Atoll anger

Wellington (AP). — The New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, issued a strong protest against what he said were two more nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific this week. One explosion was estimated at about 70 kilotons, he said.

Dealer jailed

Lagos (Reuters). — A Lagos tribunal jailed a Swiss businessman, Nicholas Johannes, yesterday for 15 years for a black market currency deal involving \$2.5 million. A British banker, Ian Wild, aged 32, charged with Johannes, was freed due to lack of evidence.

Sex film protest

Berne (AP). — Several members of the Swiss Federal Parliament have condemned as "inopportune" a decision by the French-language television network to show the sexually explicit film *Enimamelle* on New Year's Eve.

Wreck decision

Brussels (AP). — Belgium will salvage the wreck of the Mont Louis, the French cargo ship which sank in the North Sea last August with a lightly radioactive cargo, but will sue those responsible for the sinking later, the Government said.

Actress jailed

Istanbul. (Reuters). — The Pakistani film actress Aasma Ahmed and two companions have been jailed for life by a civilian court for smuggling heroin into Turkey.

Informers dies

Palermo (Reuters). — Leonards Vitale, a Mafia member who turned police informer, died in hospital yesterday, five days after being shot by gunmen outside his home.

Rock 'n' riot

Auckland (Reuters). — Cars were burnt and shops looted in Auckland as hundreds of New Zealand youths fought with police after a riot broke out at a rock concert in a city square.

Peking warning

Peking (AP). — The Chinese Communist Party said yesterday that some officials are abusing economic reforms for private gain and gave a warning that indulgers in such "new unhealthy tendencies" face severe punishment.

Brandy alibi

Johannesburg (AP). — Police Major Petrus van Vuuren denied in court here that he was drunk when his squad car hit a lamppost. His blood contained too much alcohol he said, because a passer-by tried to revive him with brandy. The case was adjourned until next month.

Soft-spoken head of a chemical giant



Mr Warren Anderson: Unassuming and warm.

Mr Warren Anderson, the Union Carbide chairman, is an unassuming, outgoing and warm person who has been a company man nearly all his working life.

Respected and silver haired, Mr Anderson, aged 63, speaks softly and generally shuns the public limelight. He spends most of his time working in executive suites.

Mr Anderson has been largely responsible for redesigning the structure of the conglomerate. He became chairman and chief executive officer of the third largest US chemical company in 1982.

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Born in Brooklyn on November 29, 1921 of Swedish parents, Mr Anderson joined Union Carbide as a chemical salesman in 1945, when the company's headquarters were in New York. They have now moved to Danbury, Connecticut, about 60 miles to the North.

He was named President in 1977 and with the then chairman, Mr William Sneath, was responsible for big changes in the company. Over five years, it topped off 30 business segments, from production of brain scanners to shrimp fishing. Instead, it began

concentrating on its basic consumer and industrial products — chemicals, plastics and batteries.

Recently, Union Carbide has been concentrating on consumer products such as plastic garbage bags, industrial gases and technology services.

Mr Anderson served in the US Navy during 1943-45 and is also a member of the American Bar Association. He lives quietly with his wife in a suburb not far from the corporation's new headquarters in Danbury.

Journalists detained in Uganda

By Richard Dowden

At least eight journalists are being detained in Uganda according to Amnesty International and one is reported to have been tortured.

The eight, from three newspapers, were served with detention orders in November.

Anthony Ssekweyama, the editor of *Munmasi* (The Friend), which supports the opposition Democratic Party, was detained after receiving a summons on four counts of sedition. Mr Paulo Ssemogerere, the party's leader and Mr Ojuk-Muluzi, its chief whip, are also to appear in court on December 17, but have not been detained.

It is understood they are to be charged in connection with a report carried in the October 31 edition, alleging the Chief Justice had colluded with the police and the executive in an attempt to have all leading members of the Democratic Party imprisoned. Three other *Munmasi* journalists, Andrew Mukindwa, John Baptist Kyume and David Kasajja, have also been detained.

Mr Drake Ssekkebe, editor of *The Star*, an English language daily, and Mr Sam Katweire, the chief sub-editor, were arrested at the newspaper's offices in Kampala on November 9 and are being held without charge.

Mr Sam Kiwanuka and Mr Francis Kanyebamba, two journalists from *The Pilot*, a Roman Catholic-supported daily, were re-arrested after being acquitted of "false and malicious publication" last month.

Israel rejects Jordan's all-party conference

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel's Defence Minister yesterday called on King Hussein of Jordan to help "expand the peace" in the Middle East but to do so through bilateral negotiations.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin rejected Jordan's proposal for a conference of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as a "formula which will lead nowhere."

The history of Arab-Israeli relations since 1949 showed that nothing could be achieved without talks conducted on a bilateral basis, he told the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

If there had been a breakthrough in the region during the past 11 years it had been because the United States had been allowed to lead the peace process, without the Soviet Union, and to use Egypt and Israel as the two cornerstones.

Another reason was that they had resolved to move gradually, first towards disengagement and only then towards a peace settlement.

Jordan was now the only available partner to join the peace process, Mr Rabin went on, aware he must have been that King Hussein himself was only a mile or so away being on a private visit in London.

If the Jordanians were ready to enter negotiations with Egypt, Israel and the US, the Israeli Government had made it clear that it was ready to start talks without any prior conditions.

"We are committed to discuss with Jordan any pro-

posal that Jordan might make", Mr Rabin said.

● BEIRUT: Lebanese Government and military officials were still trying to rewrite their much-publicized security plan for the coastal road south of Beirut yesterday after continued objections from the Druze militia and the insistence of its leader, Mr Walid Jumblatt, that the Army would only be permitted to drive down the highway — not to control it (Robert Kibria writes).

Mr Jumblatt's resistance, which may or may not have the tacit approval of the Syrians, has caused grave embarrassment to the Lebanese Cabinet. They had been publicizing the National Army's imminent operation as final proof that the Government can impose its authority outside the capital.

Thus the soldiers who had received instructions to open fire on the Israeli Army if it attempted to drive through its lines north of the Wall River, have found themselves powerless once more in the face of Mr Jumblatt's gunmen.

The security plan called for three separate Lebanese military advances: south and north of the capital and east up into the Druze-held mountains of the Chouf. The Druze have been putting it about that the Army was by subterfuge trying to regain the territory it lost.

The Lebanese Government suspects that the Syrians themselves may be none too happy with the eastern military deployment and that Damascus has therefore allowed the recalcitrant Mr Jumblatt, to be more obstructive than usual.

Sri Lanka names crisis supremo

From Our Correspondent Colombo

The Secretary of the Sri Lanka Cabinet, Mr G. V. P. Samarasinghe, was yesterday appointed by a special Cabinet decision to the post of commissioner-general of the emergency civil administration proposed by the Prime Minister.

The proposal, approved by Cabinet on Wednesday, provides for an emergency council with a network of district, divisional, and village-level committees to meet any event arising from the efforts of Tamil rebels to establish a break-away "state of Eelam" in the north and east by January 14, the Tamil New Year Festival.

The Prime Minister will supervise the plan, and at district level retired Brigadier Dennis Hapugalle has been recalled to organise peoples' committees in Colombo and urban areas to warn of attempts to disrupt essential services or attack public installations.

They will also help to maintain law and order and to train volunteer groups in crowd control, fire fighting, and other emergencies.

The spokesman corrected an earlier official report that said four suspected Tamil rebels were killed when the navy fired on an Indian trawler off the northern coast on Wednesday. He said four Indians had been arrested and would soon be sent back to India.

Four oil tanker lorries taking 4,600 gallons of diesel to the state-owned Bus Transport Board in Jaffna disappeared yesterday, with their eight Tamil drivers. They are believed to have been hijacked.

Under emergency measures in the Jaffna district, fuel is being rationed to 2.5 gallons per person in an attempt to curb the mobility of the separatist guerrillas.

Treason charge dropped at Kampala trial

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The five-week old trial of four Ugandans and a Pakistani of plotting to overthrow the Ugandan government ended abruptly yesterday in Kampala when the State Attorney told the British Judge, Mr Justice Peter Allen, that he had been instructed to withdraw the charge of treason.

Mr Justice Allen discharged the five men, who are alleged to have fought as guerrillas in

Japanese spend over £12bn on expenses

From David Watts Tokyo

Japanese businessmen spent more than £12 billion last year entertaining customers and sending seasonal gifts to all the wheels of commerce.

But despite the staggering outlay, approximately equal to the annual gross domestic product of Singapore, they earned a respectable return on investment: £3.4 for each £1.38 spent.

Expenses quickly mount up in Tokyo's Ginza area where an evening of companionship with a gorgeous young lady, some Scotch and delicate but pricey snacks can cost several hundred pounds.

For businessmen, price is no concern. The most important consideration is to make the customer feel he is important. Besides, at the end of the evening the host merely signs the bill and wends his way into the dazzling neon-lit streets with the happy thought that it is all tax deductible.

The National tax administration's figures show that businessmen spent 2,223 billion yen or about £12.1 billion.

Gorbachov may test fresh ideas in Britain

From Richard Owen Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Kremlin No 2, may bring new proposals to London in a week's time for his talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, according to Soviet sources.

Soviet's main concern was its relationship with the United States, the sources added, but Britain was seen as both a key member of the European Community and an indirect channel to Washington at a sensitive stage in East-West relations.

Mr Gorbachov, aged 53, making his first important foray to the West since his successful trip to Canada in May 1983, would elaborate in private talks with the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary on Russia's hopes for the talks in Geneva between Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and Mr George Shultz, his

American opposite number.

The Soviet Union is keen to "return to the era of détente", the sources said, but not at the expense of Soviet interests, including developments in space weaponry and the "existing balance" of nuclear forces in Europe. This suggests that the presence of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe, as well as the British and French nuclear deterrents could still become sticking points.

President Chernenko, who has been in the forefront of attempts to revive East-West relations, revealed this week in talks with the American industrialist, Dr Armand Hammer, that Moscow had initiated the January Geneva talks on arms control.

The sources said Mr Gorbachov, a former protégé of the late Yuri Andropov, had been an ally of Mr Chernenko in the struggle to convince Kremlin

hardliners that the time was ripe for a rapprochement with President Reagan. But diplomats commented that Mr Chernenko and Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet leader's most likely successor, could not appear to be making any concessions to the West.

The emerging Kremlin line is that while Washington is still aggressive and militaristic, "realistic circles" in the US — including businessmen — are willing to co-exist with Russia.

Pravda yesterday featured Mr Gorbachov's recent talks with Mr Dwayne Andreas, the joint head of the Soviet-American Trade and Economic Council, who also had talks with Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister.

Tass suggested yesterday that granting Russia "most favoured nation status" would be a "cardinal first step" by the Reagan Administration towards

normalizing East-West relations.

Mr Gorbachov's talks with Mr Andreas show that he is among those spearheading the Kremlin's new drive for détente. *Pravda* yesterday said the talks had been discussed at this week's Politburo meeting, together with Mr Gromyko's report on the Berlin conference of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers.

● PARTY RIFTS: *Pravda* reported angry disputes yesterday at a gathering of senior Communist officials in Prague in what was regarded by diplomats as a sign of irritation and disappointment by the Kremlin (Reuters reports). Western diplomats said unusually frank reporting by *Pravda* of the arguments indicated Kremlin

anxiety that smaller foreign parties were not prepared to play down their differences with Moscow.

Unleaded petrol to be on sale throughout EEC by 1989, ministers agree

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Unleaded petrol will have to be on sale throughout the EEC by 1989 at the latest, Community environment ministers agreed yesterday. Some countries may decide to make it available before then.

This will open the way to the marketing of "environmentally-conscious" vehicles, which are already under development. The aim is to phase out by the end of the century all but a limited number of vintage and specialist cars using leaded petrol.

Britain is also likely to be one of a number of countries which will insist on a permitted maximum level of 0.15 grammes of lead per litre of petrol from 1989.

What the environment ministers have yet to do, however, is decide in what kind of unleaded petrol should be used. This will be the subject of a report to be drawn up by the Commission early next year and which will review the effects of the different systems available.

There are two main contenders. One is the catalyst

converter, favoured by West Germany. It is an attachment to the exhaust system, which destroys toxic gases. The other is the lean-burn engine favoured by the motor industry and most governments. This is an engine which eats up the toxic emissions before they reach the exhaust system.

Supporters of the catalyst box say it is technology which can be applied to all cars now. Supporters of the lean-burn engine claim it is far more efficient and energy-conscious and that the catalyst requires expensive engine timing and controls.

Some estimates show that to adopt the system favoured by West Germany would cost the motor industry in Europe up to £10,000m.

The commission is also to draw up a report on how farmers can be helped to protect the environment by growing less. This case has been pressed hard by Britain, which argues that it is wrong to run a policy which induces farmers to drain wetlands and dig up hedgerows to grow more unwanted pro-

duce. It wants farmers to be compensated for not disturbing natural features.

● LONDON: There was a guarded welcome yesterday for the lead-free petrol decision (Kenneth Gosling writes).

Both the motor trade and a leading environmental group felt there should have been a synchronization to allow for changes in engine design.

After the talks, Mr William Waldegrave, Environment Under-Secretary of State, said market forces would encourage the earlier use of lead-free petrol, but he conceded that a wide gap existed between some EEC countries over the pace of change.

Mr Des Wilson, chairman of the Campaign for Lead-free Air, said the big debate was not about lead-free petrol, but how to tackle other emissions.

They would continue to press for an earlier date than 1989 and completion of the other debate on car technology, so as to have cars running on lead-free petrol as soon as it was available.

Astiz faces trial seven years after girl's death

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

An Argentine judge has ordered the arrest and trial of Captain Alfredo Astiz, who is suspected of having played a central role in the military junta's "dirty war" in the late 1970s, in connection with the disappearance in 1977 of a young Swedish woman.

Judge Miguel Del Castillo ordered Astiz's arrest in a telegram to President Raul Alfonsín, the civilian formal commander of the armed forces.

Astiz, known as "the Blond Angel", will face charges of kidnapping and murder in the case of Miss Dagmar Hagelin, who disappeared apparently, mistaken for an Argentine friend "marked" for arrest.

Miss Hagelin, aged 17, was allegedly shot by Captain Astiz when he confused her with his intended victim during an ambush at a house outside Buenos Aires. She was driven away by the ambush team.

Two former political prisoners who reportedly saw her at a secret Navy torture centre in Buenos Aires recently returned from Europe to testify before Judge Del Castillo. That testimony, with the statement of Miss Hagelin's father, was a key factor in the decision to arrest Captain Astiz.

Nearly 10,000 people disappeared during the campaign against leftist which began in 1976. A Navy tribunal halted action against Astiz by clearing him of all charges in 1981.

Astiz commanded the Argentine garrison on the South Georgian islands during the 1982 Falklands war, and was taken to London as a prisoner of war.

While he was in British hands, the Swedish and French governments sought to question him about disappearances in Argentina. Captain Astiz is also accused of the kidnapping of two French nuns who disappeared in 1976.



Up and about: Mr William Schroeder, who was given an artificial heart in Louisville, Kentucky, last week, carrying a portable heart driver unit to help him walk. He has moved to a private room from Humana Audubon Hospital's cardiac unit.

Belgian who shot Spurs fan gets three-year sentence

Brussels (PA) - A Belgian bar owner who shot dead a Tottenham Hotspur supporter in Brussels was sentenced to three years' imprisonment yesterday but he could be free again next May.

Albert Neuckermans, aged 32, sat impassive in the dock in a courtroom here as the judge described how a scuffle involving British soccer fans in his bar had incensed him. But, said the judge, the shooting which followed, leaving 19-year-old Brian Flanagan dead, had not been predetermined.

Flanagan, of Finsbury Park, London, was killed by a bullet in the back from a .22 rifle on May 8 this year. He and other Spurs fans were fleeing from the bar when Albert Neuckermans, in the red light district of Brussels at the time having only arrived in the city a short while earlier, for the Spurs match against Anderlecht.

In passing sentence yesterday, the judge emphasized that no provocation by Flanagan had been proved. There was no evidence that Flanagan was involved in vandalism at the

bar and no one had been injured, although there was a scuffle.

He left the bar with the other fans when Mr Neuckermans reached for a rifle to chase the supporters off his premises.

Last week, when Mr Neuckermans was found guilty of "unintentional homicide", the court heard that he pursued the Spurs fans and fired down a nearby street, hitting Flanagan in the back.

Under Belgian law, Mr Neuckermans is entitled to two-thirds remission of a three-year sentence, amounting to one year spent in jail. He has already spent seven months in custody awaiting trial and, with good behaviour, could be freed next May.

Flanagan's parents, who themselves run a pub, were angry at what they saw as a lenient sentence.

"We are very upset about it," his mother, Mrs Vivian Flanagan, said. "We think the judge was very lenient. The man who killed our son should have got more than that - he could be out in six months."

Church keeps heat on Jaruzelski

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's Roman Catholic bishops, meeting in closed session to discuss relations with the Communist authorities, yesterday said the murder of the pro-Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, had unleashed "new tensions".

The church leadership also condemned the ripping down of crucifixes in schools and factories by Communists.

The statement, contained in a pastoral letter to be read tomorrow, was a sharp reminder to the Jaruzelski government that the church would continue to press for its

rights and for clarification on the Popieluszko murder.

The Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, has also let it be known that the controversial "Mass for the Fatherland", introduced by Popieluszko, would be continued, but by a rota of 12 priests, to reduce the risk of persecution.

The pastoral letter describes the Popieluszko affair as a "painful experience" for the nation. "Both our society and the world have yet to calm down following this unheard-of crime... Already irresponsible forces are causing new tensions and anxieties."

Kanaks pull back as ten are mourned

Noumea (AFP) - Melanesian separatists seeking independence from France continued yesterday to dismantle road blocks in New Caledonia, but said they would maintain controls on access to several towns.

Meanwhile, thousands of opponents gathered in Noumea, some speakers hinting that they might crack down on separatist violence in the South Pacific territory if Paris did not.

They demanded that the separatists leave the eastern town of Thio, which has been held for two weeks. The rebels say they will leave on Monday, but will continue to control access.

The main Melanesian independence group, the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front, appears to be fulfilling a pledge to pull back. It has declared a day of mourning for 10 Melanesians who died at a white roadblock.

The death toll, including two brothers of M Jean-Marie Tjibaou, president of the Kanak "provisional government", rose to 10 yesterday when another Melanesian died of his wounds.

Managua promises Miskitos autonomy

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

The Sandinista Government is to grant certain autonomous rights to the Indian and creole people of Nicaragua's Caribbean coast region. It has appointed a commission to draw up legislation which will be presented to the recently elected National Assembly early next year for incorporation into a new constitution.

The measure is likely to recognize the rights of Miskito, Sumo and Rama Indians and English-speaking creoles to their own language, bilingual education, traditional lands and natural resources.

The Government had made it clear that autonomy falls far short of partition but "may include certain forms of self-government in those aspects which do not contradict the prerogatives of the state". The Deputy Interior Minister, Comandante Luis Carrion, who will head the commission, said the prerogatives included foreign policy and defence.

"It is necessary and just that ethnic groups with different languages and culture should be respected and allowed to develop in the interests of the cultural, social and political

enrichment of all Nicaraguan people."

Comandante Carrion went to Bogota yesterday for a second round of talks with Señor Brooklyn Rivers, leader of the rebel Indian organization, Misurasata.

He joined the counter-revolution three years ago after the Sandinistas reacted harshly to the autonomous aspirations of the coastal population.

An estimated 20,000 Miskitos fled or were led by guerrilla groups into Honduras during the ensuing war. The Sandinistas forcibly resettled much of the population.

The government has admitted making serious mistakes, and the commission is the most important fruit of efforts over the past two years to repair the damage.

● MIAMI: President Duarte of El Salvador has said he is prepared to suspend military operations at Christmas if guerrilla forces agree (NYT reports). He had sent a letter to Archbishop Arturo Rivera Damas of San Salvador, but had received no response from the guerrillas.

Sex slave case man to stand trial

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

A California mill worker has been ordered to stand trial on bizarre charges of kidnapping a young woman at knife-point, keeping her as his sex slave and chaining her in a large box for seven years.

After hearing two days of evidence, Judge Dennis Murray ordered Cameron Hooker, aged 31, to stand trial on December 17 in the tiny northern California town of Red Bluff on seven charges including kidnap and felony sex.

The ruling came after the court heard lurid details of how Mr Hooker and his wife, Janice, kidnapped the young woman on a street in Red Bluff when they picked her up in 1977 as a hitch-hiker. Mrs Hooker said she and her husband took the hitch-hiker home at knife-point, and then hung her from the rafters nude and blindfolded while they had sex in front of her.

Testifying in a packed court in the town, some 160 miles from San Francisco, Mrs Hooker said the woman was chained in a large box "about the size of a chest freezer" and later kept prisoner while wearing a smaller soundproof hood.

The young woman testified on Thursday that Mr Hooker "hung me up (nude) once and another time he brought a gun into the living room and told me to put my mouth over the barrel and pull the trigger". She said she complied "because I didn't believe the gun was loaded, and I didn't want to find out what would happen if I didn't".

Lost Mozart symphony gets first performance

From Christopher Follett, Odense

The premiere of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's long-lost symphony in A minor, No 16A in the Koehel register of the composer's complete works, is to take place on this Baltic island tomorrow.

One of Mozart's first symphonies, "The Odense Symphony" dates from about 1768 and was probably composed in Vienna at the age of 12.

The Odense Musical Society acquired the score, which is clearly marked "Del Sigr. Mozart" (By Signor Mozart) in 1793 only unaccountably to lose it in its archives for almost 200 years until it was unearthed in 1982.

Research by Mozart experts

has since pointed to its being an original Mozart work which disappeared, in all likelihood, before having been performed.

The 15-minute symphony, written for an orchestra of 25, is in three movements, a triple-motif allegro moderato, a languid andantino, and a sprightly rondo. It will be performed tomorrow by the Odense Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of the Hungarian maestro, Tamas Veto.

Also on the Programme is Rossini's "Sinfonia di Odense" of 1813 found in the vaults of Odense town hall in 1946 in circumstances very similar to the discovery of the "new" Mozart work.

Party re-elects Peacock by acclaim

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr Andrew Peacock was yesterday re-elected leader of Australia's parliamentary Liberal Party by acclamation, his reward for confounding the opinion polls, reducing the Labour government's majority and gaining a swing of 1.7 per cent to the Opposition last Saturday's federal election. The meeting was in Canberra.

Mr Peacock basked in the warmth of a standing ovation by his colleagues and embraced Mr John Howard, who was endorsed as deputy without a vote. Mr Howard is seen as Mr Peacock's main rival for the party leadership.

After the meeting, Mr Howard, asked if he would rule

and publicly, from Mr Howard.

Also re-elected unanimously yesterday were Mr Fred Chaney, Senate opposition leader, and Mr Peter Durack, his deputy.

Yesterday's meetings did not decide on the make-up of the Opposition front bench, which will be completed at a meeting of the Liberal and National parties on Wednesday.

Mr Peacock has the sole right to allocate shadow portfolios. He is expected to await the outcome of next week's Labour caucus elections and the announcement on Wednesday morning by Mr Bob Hawke, of his second ministry.

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Playing the market

If it is bullishness you seek from the market, look no further than the Stock Exchange Stags, the American football team that has just finished its first season. "It's not hard to find big and crazy guys in the City," says coach and quarterback Tom They, of Bank of America. "They are really tough boys." No matter that the Stags first four games all ended in defeat next April they will fight with the best in Britain's first league programme. There are three Americans in the squad of 45, and the two stars are both English rugby types - tailback Robert Mapstone from Rosslyn Park and fullback Mick Shepherd of Blackheath. They are lost in admiration for them all: "I thought they'd be Peewee League standard. But they learn fast. And they're really physical."

Pelégrination

Pelé, alas, is not *persona grata* with his former club, Santos. Needing to beat Corinthians to win the Sao Paulo title for the first time for 14 years, they begged him not to attend the match. He was a jinx, they said, whose forecasts always went wrong. They even took down Pelé's picture in the dressing room and put up one of Jesus Christ. Santos won 1-0; and took the title.

● Larry Lloyd was sacked as manager of Notts County Football Club in October. A few weeks later he won a £200 prize - as a member of the Notts County One Hundred Club.

Peak condition

Richard Crane, who ran across the Himalayas, has taken part in the extraordinary Mount Cameroon Race on January 27. The distance is 135.35 km. The course is on a 13,353 ft volcano. Runners start in rain forest, cross savannah and reach, with luck, the snow-capped peak. They then turn around and go back again. Local dangers, apart from one-in-four inclines, are wild boar and python. Participants have been asked to make "sacrifices" to the gods of the local Bakweri tribe.

Ton-up

No sooner had Mike Gatting scored his first Test Match century in 54 attempts, than he scored another international ton in the one-day match at Poona. This is very much the Gatting way. He made his first appearance in first-class cricket in 1975, and did not make a hundred until 1978: then he got another in his next innings. And in the innings after that, he was caught off a big hit on 86. Rumours abound that Gatting fancies his chances of hitting little Shivaramkrishnan into the mist of memory.

See red

Appalling crowd behaviour has got Vietnam's official newspaper *Nhan Dan* in a fury. At a recent match between military teams from Vietnam and Laos, the home crowd used "rude words" and called for the expulsion of one of their own players.

Umpirical

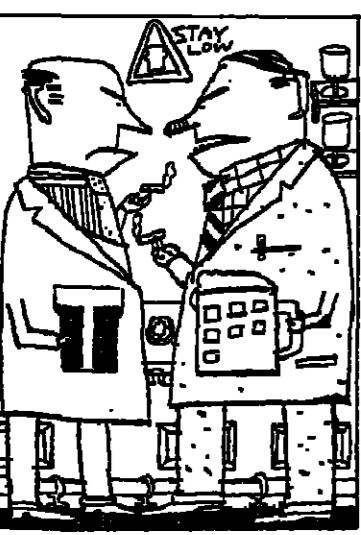
Mounting fire at Indian umpiring decisions stirred memories for Jim Laker, at the Lord's Taverners lunch this week. He recalled when George Tribe, touring India with a Commonwealth XI in 1950-51, had numerous appeals for leg-before turned down. In the end, the Northamptonshire Australian seised the umpire by the scruff of the neck, demanding that he took a second look. The umpire did so. "Oh yes, Mr Tribe, you are quite right."

● Cecil Parkinson is making a sporting comeback as chairman of the joint fundraising committee of the Sports Aid Foundation and the Sports Aid Trust. He finds it a "marvellous antidote to politics".

Footwork

Neil Warnock was sold by Aldershot Football Club after three seasons. These days he is a chiropractor and manager of the Northern Premier League side Burton Albion, who go to Aldershot today for the FA Cup second round. It is Warnock's second trip back to Aldershot, and he has wondrous memories of his time as a Barnsley player: "I was going towards the goal," he says, "and the manager who sold me yelled at the defender to let me cut in and get on my left foot, because he knew I was always a right-sided player." Warnock was therefore forced to have a crack with his wrong foot: the ball screamed in from 40 yards to settle the match.

BARRY FANTONI



"It's criminal of the government to stop telling us "Don't drink and drive"!"

Race to woo the common stock

The popularity of the British Telecom launch with small investors may herald a new trend. William Kay asks who will step in to meet the market opportunities

The success of the British Telecom share sale is about to make itself felt throughout the land. The small investor, and in particular the two million who have put their names and addresses on the BT share register, can expect to find themselves on the receiving end of a very hard sell over the next few years.

Thanks to some assiduous prodding by Sir Gordon Borrie of the Office of Fair Trading, Britain's financial services industry is undergoing a revolution. That revolution centres on the Stock Exchange, which is due in 1986 to be opened up to worldwide competition from whoever has the money, credentials and inclination to bid for custom. But the great imponderable in that revolution has been the small investor. This endangered species has been declining in numbers for over 20 years, under the withering fire of repeated increases in personal tax. A rumour of 1½ million remained, mainly because of inheritance. The question was whether the species could be revived. Although it is not yet clear how many of the BT applicants were shareholders already, there is no doubt that a significant number of first-timers were tempted into posting cheques.

That indicates a considerable amount of untapped demand. And in business terms, untapped demand represents opportunity. The tax reforms of Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Nigel Lawson have paved the way, enabling more people to amass

enough spare money to begin to think of buying shares. What has not happened so far in this country is any serious attempt to sell the idea of investing on the stock market to a mass market. Stockbrokers have had neither the office systems nor the temperament to reach out to a large number of people with a few hundred pounds.

Despite campaigns by the Stock Exchange itself, most stockbrokers have preferred to court the big investment funds or the rich individual: some will still not look at any would-be client with less than £50,000, unless that client is content to have his or her money put into a unit trust. After all, a £1,000 transaction costs as much to process as a £1m transaction, and earns far more commission.

But computers and electronic communication make it much more feasible to handle lots of small bargains cheaply. And under the new rules coming into force in 1986 there will be no guarantee that the £1m deal will make that much more commission for the broker than the smaller deal.

This does not mean that every

stockbroker is going to open a high-street shop. The skills required are so totally foreign to many of them that they will find other ways to compete within the City's moneyed walls. What we are already beginning to see, and the success of BT can only encourage, is the emergence of established marketeers and retailers who are clearly keen to deal on behalf of the public at large.

In the past few months both House of Fraser and Debenhams, two department store groups, have forged links with financial organizations. House of Fraser has reached agreement with Hambro Life Assurance whereby Hambro will set up offices in Fraser's chain of stores around the country to sell savings schemes and insurance. Hambro Life in turn has connections with Kicat and Aitken, the stockbrokers, so it would not be difficult to take orders for the stock market.

Debenhams' arrangement is with Hill Samuel, the merchant banking and unit trust group. It is based on Debenhams' new Homecentre department, which offers an estate agency service. Hill Samuel will give advice on mortgages, life insurance

and pensions. But again, Hill Samuel is tied up with the stockbroking firm of Wood Mackenzie. A third example, Britannia Arrow, the unit trust group, has taken a stake in Heseltine Moss, the stockbroker with branches in every sizeable town along the M4 from London to Cardiff. Britannia Arrow has said that it would like to buy into other provincial stockbrokers.

These alliances have one feature in common, and it is one that is going to become increasingly valuable. Sets of partners will have access to one another's customer lists, giving them a direct line through which to sell their respective wares to a new audience.

And what is the biggest mailing list of all? Why, BT's of course. We can expect a lengthy queue to form outside Companies House when the BT register has been compiled and lodged with the Department of Trade and Industry. It will give a valuable insight into the potential for this country to become a share-owning democracy in the same way as it has become a property-owning one.

Just as the widespread desire for home ownership had made the building society movement bigger than the clearing banks, so a similar conversion to share ownership creates its own industry. The banks have been tentatively thinking of installing some interactive television screens. Whether they do or not, others undoubtedly will.

Peter Lennon on France's greatest proponent of history verité

Annales of a total historian



Champion of immobility: Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie

A critic once described the historical characters dear to the French historian Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, as "creatures who struggle in a prison with their brother the rat, their guests the flea and their enemy the plague." They are the medieval peasants of southern France. Distaste for such low company might be one of the reasons why the British history establishment has for so long kept his work at sniffing distance.

Le Roy Ladurie is the acknowledged leader of the French Annalist school of history, called after *Annales* which began to publish and proposed a new approach to history in 1929. His adherents concern themselves with the impact on history of commoners rather than the influence of the political or military elite; reject as inadequate a straightforward chronicle of events, and in handling even a minor issue will strive to recreate the total environment of the time.

Le Roy Ladurie, author of *Montaigne and The Peasants of Languedoc*, was in London last weekend at an ICA symposium which was expected to provide a fruitful confrontation between British exponents of "history of events" and this champion of what has been called "immobile" history. As a confrontation with a Gallic adversary did not appeal to the English traditionalists, their preference was for provocative reticence. Only Cambridge historian, Peter Burke, who admits to being a "fellow traveller" and already nine years ago, in the *Times Educational Supplement*, described *The Peasants of Languedoc* as "a masterpiece", was on the platform.

It is not as if the Annalist approach was a hot new fad or entirely foreign to Britain. In the 1950s, W. G. Hoskins published *The Midland Peasant*, a study of the area around Wigston Magna Leicestershire, using a broadly Annalist approach, and Peter Burke identified a "historical subculture" in Britain which in a variety of ways employs this approach.

This French "new history" might be immobile, but it is total history. It draws on anthropology, theology, demography and psychology. Dendrochronology, the study of tree rings, is one of its tools, and climatology is an important element. (Le Roy Ladurie has published a history of European climate since the year 1,000.)

To the traditional medieval historian, Le Roy Ladurie's style can seem disconcertingly sensational, inviting the reader to excited speculation. Chapter 11 of *Carnival in Romans* opens with heady-eyed speculation on the behaviour of the Huguenot prime mover in the subsequent slaughter of peasants during the carnival.

"Could there have been a Huguenot plot at the bottom of the 1579-80 revolt in Dauphine? Judge Guérin seemed to think so, or at least wanted to make us think so. For Guérin is all too clearly the author of the anonymous report

which provides one of the main accounts we have of the protests in Romans. Where the layman might join the traditionalists in distrust in questioning the historical value of a minute record of the activities of people who, unlike politicians or generals, or indeed artists, do not have any visible effect on the development and destiny of their country. Another question is: what is so special about French peasants?

Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie is not a French peasant. He admits to being the son of "a gentleman farmer", brought up in a strict conservative Catholic home in the Calvados area. His childhood ambition to be a naval officer was thwarted by his near-sightedness, which now, at the age of 55, equips him with the deep furred squint appropriate to an perpetually scrutinising the Dark Ages.

A slight figure of considerable

charm and fluency he is, with the passing of Sartre, Raymond Aron and Foucault, one of the last French intellectuals of national stature. His books are bestsellers. Although his field is limited to southern France from the fourteenth to the eighteenth century, the French media wheels him out to make pronouncements on Giscard's reign, his reservations about Mitterrand's regime, or whether Nazi war criminals like Barbie should be executed.

Indeed, at one period his only serious rival as a public oralist was Yves Montand, who like Le Roy Ladurie is an ex-Communist. Envious British historians may find consolation in the knowledge that Montand got by far the bigger audience, largely because he can sing better.

Le Roy Ladurie identified Britain's deficiency in providing such historical records as something

many in modern Britain would consider to be a lost possession: success. "The story of England since the Glorious Revolution of 1688 is a success story", he said. "It is a history of progress in liberty, constitutional government, early industrialization and empire. If you take France in the eighteenth century, for example, the image is negative. In consequence England does not have this sombre content, this traditional and reactionary society - a peasantry, Catholicism, things that liberals find a little ridiculous but which in France are very close to us."

Since "the events" of May 1968 there has been a fascination in France with returning to roots. History became the most reliable ingredient for any bestselling book, more popular than fiction. But Le Roy Ladurie admits to a more personal, psychological compulsion. As a child he went to Paris and became a very active member of the Communist Party. Like many French intellectuals he resigned from the party in 1956, after the Soviet invasion of Hungary, and his thinking is now distinctly conservative.

"Having been a Communist was a very brutal kind of separation from the village life, since it involved immersion in urban life", he said. "So I have a nostalgia for rural life being unable to reintegrate into the community of my childhood. Because of this episode of my youth maybe I am trying to go back in other ways - through history."

He believes, however, that peasants did have a considerable if subtle effect on their society, since life in France was affected by the fact that 80 per cent of the population were peasants with their particular way of "seeing life, of going to church, of loving or hating".

Although the standard-bearer of the *Annales* school, Le Roy Ladurie does not feel obliged to remain imprisoned by this method eternally. His first move away might be traced to a paper on the courtiers of the Court of Louis XIV. "I studied them as if they were savages, or at least an enclosed community." But he has now embarked on a political history of France. "I don't see any objection to looking at what is a king. I think it is difficult to write political history if you do not use some narrative. I am not against narrative. But you can do it from a fresh viewpoint."

In writing a political history he will, he says, encounter great figures such as Richelieu and Saint-Simon. But he will also pay particular attention to politicians of the second rank.

So while British historians have begun to absorb the "new history" in discreet and digestible portions, the French are curving back into traditionalists' territory. "I can't say I will do a better job," Le Roy Ladurie said, "but at least it will be different."

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Christopher Price

Sir Keith, the secret socialist

Over the past few weeks - before his climbdown - Sir Keith Joseph has been sounding like a socialist. The proposals he introduced to make professional parents pay more towards the higher education of their children could well have been introduced by a Labour minister of education; and although Labour MPs tried to distance themselves from Conservative backbenchers by contrasting frenetic opposition to grant cuts with comparative silence towards pensioners' heating allowances, many of them must have been uncomfortable at joining the political opposition in attacking Sir Keith on this particular issue.

In more affluent times, there was one principle to which all political parties aspired - the right of the 18-year-old to independence from his or her parents, however poor or rich they might be. Although they now seem to have abandoned the commitment, the Conservatives endorsed it in their 1979 manifesto in an attempt to woo the student vote in marginal seats. Labour, which granted the vote to 18-year-olds in 1970, has always made the principle of student independence an important part of its higher education policy.

It was this principle which underlay Mr Mulley's student grant settlement in 1976 when he abolished for the first time all fees for home students and instituted a substantial minimum maintenance grant. But Mr Mulley's concessions to student independence largely benefited the middle class. It constituted the most generous package ever for affluent families and their student offspring. There was no corresponding clawback in taxation to pay for the exercise. If the Conservatives had ever introduced a similar package, it would probably have been attacked as pampering the rich.

Autonomy is only one element of the student grant jigsaw, however. Sir Keith's weeks of agonising revolved round other politically ambivalent arguments. Is the higher education of the minority which receives it a public or a private "good"? Is it investment in the future of the nation, or entrenchment of the class privileges of those who so substantially benefit from it? It is clearly both, and there are swings of the pendulum as to which element is the more important socially and politically.

In the early 1970s, when Ivan Illich produced *Deschooling Society* and propounded the latter thesis, he was adopted by some (including myself) as a left-wing prophet, but he was also influential on the new right. Only three years ago, Professor Maurice Peston (of the Labour Party) and Milton Friedman (of the Chicago School) agreed on TV on the case for student loans - reasoning that it was quite inequitable for the state to make a gift to our future professionals of the resources which eventually make them rich. So Sir Keith's line had respectable socialist as well as monetarist provenance. It was political reality which brought him rudely to his senses.

I know the feeling. Five years ago when Labour was working on its policies for private education, I

produced a scheme under which university grants and freedom from fees would be restricted to state school pupils. It had the effect of asking public school pupils to pay the same £5,000 annual university fees as Malaysians and Nigerians, and was designed to prevent parents using private secondary education to gain privileged access to state subsidised higher education.

I felt Labour would stand up and applaud the idea, not a bit of it. The NEC rejected the plan. They said it was unfair, but their real motives, like those of the Government this week, were fear of middle-class fury. They foresaw a welter of opposition to the idea, not just from of stockbroker-belt letters to the *Daily Telegraph* but more seriously from the National Union of Students. Once again electoral discretion became the better part of (in this case) socialist valour.



Sir Keith: middle-class rout

At least Sir Keith's political agony has produced an enquiry. I hope it offers those presently excluded from further and higher education a piece of the action. What is the justification for restricting access to education after school during a period of mass unemployment? Why should mandatory grants be restricted to degree and certain diploma courses? The 1944 Education Act made it illegal to charge fees in state supported schools. Why then charge fees in state supported colleges and universities?

Sir Keith was right to try to spend more on science because he belatedly recognized that we are in a competitive international market which demands public investment in its scientific and technological infrastructure. But what about public investment in the skills of the people?

There is a strong case for more access to higher and further education. But it will have to be paid for by taxes on the affluent, raised by a government which is not frightened of middle-class revolt. Neither Mr Callaghan nor Mr Wilson before him faced this problem much better than Mrs Thatcher did this week.

The author is pro-assistant director of the Polytechnic of the South Bank; until last year he was a Labour MP and chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts.

Roy Strong

Fantasies afforded by the des. res.

I hope that I am not alone in finding advertisements for houses hypnotic reading matter. It is a sad confession that much of the appeal of that delectable old war-horse, *Country Life*, springs from the voyage of the mind and the imagination triggered off by the property pages. Property in the glossies is superior property and that is part of the attraction. Financial constraints are put aside and one reimagines one's existence in a Victorian rectory in Staffordshire, a castle in Sutherland or a Georgian terrace house in Bath. Busily one tots up the number of living rooms and bedrooms, assigning them to occupants *en passant*, the service areas and the extent of the garden, arranging oneself and one's artefacts into them.

The vocabulary used is so limited that one feels anyone working in an estate agents must either be illiterate or part of some plot to kill off the English language: "excellent", "superb", "exclusive", "impressive", "elegant", "charming". The word "luxury" has certainly shed its biblical overtones indicative of untold decadent excess. I remain haunted by the notion that there must exist, hidden away somewhere, a glossary that agents use which actually defines what is meant by "quiet", "secluded", "superb", "gracious", "lovely", "outstanding", "well-appointed" and "original".

There are four distinct phases in looking at these advertisements. The earliest is that of youth, merely day-dreaming; the next is that of reality of the search; the third is one of greed, gleaning over what is hopelessly a rising investment, a conclusion to be sustained by looking for similar properties and seeing what they cost; finally, there comes the moment of unloading, when one comes face to face with one's own dwelling pinned up in an estate agent's window or printed in a newspaper or magazine.

Those in the business must know how pathetically gullible we all are, for we are bombarded with endless new glossy magazines which are given away, paid for entirely by the advertising of property. These publications in the main seem to record presences at parties, the inevitable guides to food and drink, a profile of a personality, and above all column inches on each area of London and its current

rating in the investment stakes. They are deeply off-putting, and the paper on which they are printed invariably smells.

It is striking, however, that no photograph actually fully conveys the intangible atmosphere of a home. Everyone who has hunted for a house or flat knows that. The reality is always quite different. It can be as elementary as the fact that if the camera's eye is not fixated either a fraction to the left or right, it would have taken in the gas filling station or silage tower. More inexplicable is that feeling of arriving to view a place and knowing that it is not even worth getting out of the car. Sometimes that gut reaction only happens within, when one is overpowered by a sudden sense of a alienation as though the walls exuded a sinister rejection.

That aura of good or ill, happiness or gloom, joy or melancholy emanates from encounters with even the humblest of dwellings. It is quite unnerving. Ghosia, I suppose. Ghosts of another sort can be compiled going around empty houses where there is always just enough left of the previous occupants to piece together their existence. Did they really live in such squalor? Whatever went on in that bathroom painted black? And I don't like to think what happened in the games room! Simultaneously projecting one's own life onto the building, the mind recreates the one that has gone.

At no time in our history can there have been such an acreage of paper devoted to the change in ownership of domestic residences. What a mine of social history they present: architecture, interiors, under to what was thought of as modern or new in terms of facilities and comforts. How I would love to have turned over the imaginary pages of advertisements from the Tudor or Stuart period. Whereas we dwell on the virtues of central heating or the addition of a swimming pool, they would have highlighted such novelties as glazed windows, a garden or, rather still, a bathroom. And the language of sale would have been that of the Authorized Version: "goodly", "fair", "majestic", "comely", and "stately".

Sir Roy Strong is director of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Third World industry: the toxic mix

However much the world chemical industry protests its innocence in the wake of the Bhopal disaster, it had a certain inevitability according to many environmental experts. Chemical companies reflect accusations that they operate double standards - taking wilful advantage of lax safety regulations in developing countries to build dangerous plants which would not be accepted in the West.

The industry argues that no self-respecting multinational can afford to be known as negligent, or to cut corners. There is no question of double standards, says a spokesman for British Petroleum. "Chemicals are simply too dangerous to take chances with. It is not just people that have to be safeguarded, but multi-million pound investments."

He also points out, however, that the practices of some individual companies are likely to be better than others, and that "It is more difficult to operate in some places than others." Dr Peter Merriman, in charge of safety at the 200-member Chemical Industries Association (CIA) in London, adds: "The best hardware (the plant) is no better than the software (the operating mechanisms and personnel) it employs."

These are exactly the kind of warning notes struck by environmental experts. Dr Lee Talbot, formerly director general of the

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and now a fellow of the World Resources Institute in Washington, says that in their eagerness to industrialize, developing countries "often put pressure on multinational companies to lower their standards". Some resist; some, particularly in the depressed state of the world chemical industry, find that hard.

Then what Dr Talbot calls the special circumstances of developing countries come into play. As in Bhopal, communities driven to urban centres from depressed rural areas are allowed to congregate and build shanty houses around industrial plants. Their dwellings are often made of cardboard, paper or straw. Infrastructure is poor; fire and water services rudimentary. If a major accident does occur, relief and resale is difficult.

Dr Talbot also points out that cultural problems increase the risks. Local managers and operators have to be trained (at Bhopal there were no expatriate personnel) and illiterate staff have to be schooled in basic techniques such as closing down valves and bolts when servicing a plant. If the staff cannot read, it must be informed through signs or audio-visual communication, which means increased expenditure on training and equipment.

Peter Thacker, formerly deputy executive director of the United

Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) says these factors can lead to "a lack of quality control", exacerbated by the fact that many large chemical plants in the developing world are like Union Carbide in Bhopal, joint ventures between state and private enterprise. Thatcher says: "All developing country governments operate under tremendous temptations, and the temptations worsen as indebtedness grows."

It cannot be a coincidence, he argues, that pollution levels in developing countries are rising as those in the West are falling. Some countries, such as Mexico, Brazil, Indonesia and Taiwan, are alleged to offer freedom from local pollution legislation as a way of encouraging investment.

The gap between disaster and enforcement of legislation is wide and much disputed, as the relatively easy British experience shows. On

December 18 the Control of Industrial Major Accident Hazards (CIMAH) regulations will come before Parliament. They consist of Britain's response to the EEC's so-called Seveso Directive which requires European countries to tighten their industrial safety and disclosure procedures, an initiative that came in the wake of the 1976 Italian disaster.

Some institutions are attempting to address similar issues on a wider front. Last month UNEP held a conference in Versailles on Industry and the Environment. Major emphasis was put on the transfer of industrial risk information as an integral part of the transfer of technology.

Developing countries stressed their need for an international data base on which to make informed decisions on design and safety regulations. But as Dr Martin Holgate, Chief Scientist at the Department of the Environment, and a former chairman of the UNEP governing council, points out: "Many developing countries find themselves on the horns of a dilemma. They do not want to import social and environmental risks, but they do want revenue and jobs."

Andrew Lycett



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

BEGINNING THE BUDGET BATTLE

The Budget season has begun early, but in earnest. Now the Tory backbenches have tasted power, both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor seem to have realized they have a battle on their hands. If they are to avoid the ignominy of a contested Finance Bill next summer, they need to persuade their party in advance to endorse their tax priorities.

So we have Mrs Thatcher's unusually broad pre-Budget hints that Mr Lawson's spare cash (£1½ billion net, at the latest Treasury guess) should be concentrated on raising the thresholds for personal taxation. Such an attempt, if not actually to consult, at least to prepare the ground, is a welcome consequence of the Josephine student grants debacle. Mrs Thatcher and her neighbour will, however, have to take the argument a whole lot further before Budget day.

The Prime Minister argued that Britain's tax thresholds are too low in relation to social security benefits. She and her Chancellor rightly believe this exacerbates both the "poverty trap" and the "unemployment trap". (The former catches those low-earning families who find that a discouragingly high proportion of extra earnings is clawed back from them through higher tax and a cut in means-tested benefits; the latter catches those jobless families who find that low-paid work offers a discouragingly small increase in net income compared with supplementary benefit.)

But the argument has to be made at once more general and more specific. The general point worrying many of Mrs Thatcher's backbenchers is that pound for pound higher public investment would seem to boost employment more immediately than tax cuts, since a higher proportion of money given to individuals to spend "leaks" into imports. The liberal answer to this is that people should be allowed to express their consumer preferences, but it sticks in many politicians' gullets when unemployment is over three million and still rising.

A subtler answer is that the loss from import "leakage" would be much less if all of Europe were to cut taxes together, thus stimulating competition, consumer choice and continental expansion all at the same time. The Government's suspicion of anything that smacks of European economic policy co-operation has so far deprived it of this useful card; but there is another vital way in which it needs to refine its arguments in favour of tax cuts.

Politically and economically, tax reductions tend to pall in comparison with "hard decisions" in public expenditure when they are too general. For example, it is not hard to understand why politicians balked at charging core supporters up to £900 a year more for educating their children in order to save a sum that, if used to raise tax thresholds, could

provide all standard-rate taxpayers with less than another 4p a week. The point is not, as some Tories speciously claimed, that £39 million is an "insignificant sum"; it is that in tax policy as much as expenditure planning, it needs to be used to maximum effect.

This means Mrs Thatcher's general desire to lessen the poverty and unemployment traps should be expressed in tax changes focussed on specific groups and problems. It is families who are caught in Mrs Thatcher's "traps", and they make up only a minority of the unemployed. The way to make a significant impact on their tax bills is by restructuring family taxation. For all the unemployed, Mr Lawson's strategy should embrace national insurance (a generally heavy tax on the low-paid) and social security rules which penalize acceptance of part-time jobs, which are the only kind of employment showing significant growth.

Such changes need not prevent Mr Lawson from re-arranging the tax structure, shifting more of the burden on to expenditure, thinning out income tax reliefs and raising thresholds for all. But he does need to proceed on the basis of his party's confidence that tax cuts made with it as were, his free cash - his act "fiscal adjustment" - will be precisely and efficiently designed to have maximum impact on its rising worries about unemployment.

A NEW CONTEXT FOR LOMÉ

This is an important day for Lomé, the capital of the impoverished west African state of Togo. Ministers from all the members of the European Community will meet counterparts from more than 60 developing African, Caribbean and Pacific countries for the quinquennial signing of the aid and trade convention that bears Lomé's name. But the significance of the occasion is not merely ritualistic.

The third Lomé Convention, which runs from 1985 to 1990, should be seen as a turning point in the history of the tortured relations between rich and poor nations. It embodies a new toughness on the part of the donors, a change of attitude which typifies the recent determination of donors to exercise more influence not only over how much assistance they give to developing countries but also over how that aid is spent.

Correspondingly, the new convention implies an acceptance, however grudging, by recipient countries that the era of aid and of trade concessions without strings is past. The import of the change is underlined by the fact that Lomé is the cornerstone of the Community's foreign policy towards developing countries

and that as such it was originally conceived as a treaty between equals.

The financial stringencies under which the community feels it is operating - a stringency which extends collectively to countries which individually are generous in the help to emerging nations - is reflected in the global amount of official transfers. At 7,500 million European Currency Units (£4,500 million) there is little real increase. Britain's share of £740 million over the five years has been somewhat reduced proportionately by the addition of notional amounts for Spain and Portugal on the assumption that those countries join the community.

Substantial as these sums seem, it is the trade provisions of the treaty which offer most to those African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, 38 of which are members of the Commonwealth. But objections by the Mediterranean community members prevented further liberalisation of the conditions governing imports into the community from the ACP. It is regrettable that the logic of defending the Common Agricultural Policy should have provoked a disproportionate resistance to higher imports of rum

from the West Indies, for example.

That said, the Europeans did agree to new procedures for evaluating ACP applications to export different goods to the community, and that change is to be welcomed. But for the European taxpayer, who is barely conscious of ACP exports, the attention will still focus on aid. Here the Community has given teeth to the "policy dialogue" on which so much emphasis has been placed by indicating its preference for food production in the ACP countries and by playing a much more detailed part in planning projects. More Commission officials will be assigned to recipient countries and in the end the Commission reserves the right to refuse money for projects of which it disapproves.

The new tougher policy should ensure that fewer of what M. Edgard Pisani, the commissioner in charge of Lomé, called "cathedrals in the desert" will be built. But it also demands more commitment by the donors. The real importance of today's signing is that the European Community will have to accept responsibility for the failures as well as the successes of the third Lomé Convention.

POLITICIAN, PUNDIT - AND PAINTER?

In the first place it must be made clear that the Presidency of the Royal Academy is not the Turner Prize. Mr Roger de Grey, the new President, has not been appointed Top Artist, and he would be the first to acknowledge that there are more notable painters both among the Academicians who elected him and in the category of distinguished unclubbables who have never sought to join. The confusion dates back to the earliest days of the Academy, for it took the shape it did largely because Sir Joshua Reynolds, its first president, was an effective leader in policy terms and a sovereign pundit on matters of style, as well as being the foremost painter of his day.

But it is unusual for all three capacities to coexist in one man. Only one other president since then, Leighton, was the acknowledged leading artist of his day. Neither Turner nor Constable ever became president. Genius quite commonly goes with limited skill at handling committees and with a strong reluctance to be distracted from one's own work. The amiable tradition of choosing a leader from among practitioners limits the field to those with time to serve, and tends to impose a loss in administrative and public relations skills for the sake of the special authority that only a practitioner can supply. The Royal Institute of British Architects, by coincidence, is also currently selecting a president to be spokesman for its much-abused profession, and is faced with similar problems.

The Academy is both more and less than a trade union for painters, sculptors and archi-

ects. The presidency is a role of more splendour than power; has neither a salary nor even an office to go with it. Yet much is expected of a president, and very much will be expected of Mr de Grey, because his predecessor, Sir Hugh Casson, filled the post with such panache and presided over such great changes in the Academy's activities. Under his regime, the last traces of the atmosphere of an exclusive and complacent West End club were chased away. The number of exhibitions - many of the highest quality and interest - rose from a couple a year to a dozen or more. Unprecedented support has been drummed up from commercial sponsors and, through the new Friends scheme, the general public.

It would be impossible for any successor to ape Sir Hugh's performance and it is unnecessary for one to try. The eye of the public has been caught and the Academy set on a new course. A period of consolidation, and slightly less galvanic output of energy, would be quite natural. There would be no harm in taking stock a little. Without losing its original syndicalist character as a small workers' commune, the Academy has developed into a showplace which has to keep the show rolling to keep itself solvent. It has become an example of self-help calculated to gladden the heart of any Minister for the Arts, following the example of most of the big American art museums in actively going out to secure a constituency of support and goodwill. As such, it may find itself used by the Government as a stick for beating the great subsidized galleries.

The danger is in pursuing popularity at the expense of content. The state museums are already inclined to see their role as one of more serious public education. Sir Joshua would have grieved at the imputation of frivolity against his Academy. It would be a pity if the high scholarly quality of the exhibitions declined, or if the fast and furious show at the front of Burlington House became further alienated from the dedicated unseen work of the Academy school behind. (There has been an alienation, perhaps inevitable, since the days of primal amateurism when every Academician was required to teach in the school, regardless of capacity, and Turner used to prepare lectures meticulously, with exquisite illustrative sketches, but mumbled so much that he could not be heard, and was apt to mislay his notes in cabs beforehand.)

Sir Hugh Casson did not greatly develop his role as spokesman for the arts in controversy, and indeed it is a task to be exercised with great tact if pomposity is to be avoided. The Academy's record as arbiter of taste is perhaps the least happy aspect of its history. At some periods this role can best be expressed implicitly through its exhibitions and other activities (today in its summer exhibitions it gives expression to a healthy catholicity of style). But it would be a pity if the Academy ever wholly abandoned the idea that part of its function is to comment on the state of the visual arts in this country, and to identify and express a serious commitment to the highest standards.

Insurance against housebreaking

From the Secretary General of the British Insurance Association
Sir, Mr Poulton (December 5) is wrong to say that insurance companies are not interested in efforts made by the community to prevent crime. Indeed the British Insurance Association, through its "Beat the burglar" campaign, has provided a great deal of information, and financial support in the interests of domestic crime prevention. We are closely associated in this activity with police forces and crime-prevention panels.

It is, of course, the policyholder who will ultimately benefit from neighbourhood watch schemes, mainly from the greater peace of mind that they can encourage, but also financially if lower property losses enable insurance companies to maintain rates at present levels.

It must not be forgotten, however, that it is not just the frequency of claims that is significant but the cost of each one and it is a fact that the average cost of settling a house-contents claim has more than doubled in five years.

There is also the practical point that, to be sure of their effectiveness, each scheme, and there must be thousands in existence, would have to be monitored, which would represent an unduly heavy administrative burden. There would also be problems in clearly identifying each scheme, many of which cover a few streets only.

Yours faithfully,
R BARDELL, Secretary General,
British Insurance Association,
Alderman House,
Queen Street, EC4,
December 6.

Those in favour

From Mr J. L. Linsley Hood
Sir, You publish today (December 3) the result of a survey of 2,000 adults, carried out by NOP, which showed that a majority were not in favour of the use of physical violence for political ends.

However, turning these statistics around I was disturbed to discover that, of those questioned, 28 per cent failed to condemn the membership, in political parties, of those who believed in the violent overthrow of governments; 26 per cent failed to condemn trade union action which might force a British government to resign; and 17 per cent were not specifically opposed to a situation in which political violence forced a government to call a general election.

Has this always been the case, or is this a new development in our national attitudes?
Yours faithfully,
J. L. LINSLEY HOOD,
Robins,
Greenway,
West Monkton,
Taunton, Somerset,
December 3.

Tests for Libyans

From the Director of the Lord's Taverners

Sir, The master mariner's letter of December 5 complaining about the lack of engineering textbooks in British Council's overseas libraries is fully supported by my experience.

When I was head of the British Naval Mission to Libya in 1970 I couldn't believe my eyes when browsing through the council's library in Tripoli. There on the shelf for Libyan consumption was the complete history of Test matches between England and Australia.

Although a cricket enthusiast myself, I thought it was stretching it a bit to buy an expensive book on cricket for Gaddafi's followers. The British Council's purchasing policy for their overseas councils is highly questionable.

ANTHONY SWAINSON
(Master mariner),
Director,
The Lord's Taverners,
1 Chester Street, SW1,
December 5.

Coping with squatters

From Mr J. J. S. Davidson

Sir, The Reverend R. G. N. Plant (November 16), who described the appropriation by squatters of a parishioner's home, appears never to have heard of section 7 of the Criminal Law Act 1977. This makes it an offence for anyone who is on premises as a trespasser after having been asked to do so by the occupier.

Failing local police action he could bring a civil action in damages against the chief constable.
I remain, yours faithfully,
J. J. S. DAVIDSON,
Davidson, Merali and Company,
Solicitors,
64 New Cavendish Street, W1.

Offputting register

From the Director General of the Engineering Employers' Federation

Sir, The Social Security Bill, which is now entering its committee stage in the House of Commons, contains an amazing proposal for the establishment of a public register for occupational pension schemes. Not only is a register completely unnecessary, its establishment would be contrary to at least three strands of Government policy - namely, to encourage the provision of occupational pensions; to remove unnecessary administrative burdens from employers; and to reduce the number of civil servants.

The register is said to be a "good thing" because it would help to secure compliance with the Bill's disclosure requirements; because it would help to deter fraud or negligence because it would facilitate comparison between schemes; and because it would provide a body of pension information to the Government (and occupation for

Lessons to learn on public spending

From Lord Barnett

Sir, I write to strongly agree with my old PAC (Public Accounts Committee) colleague, Peter Hordern, MP (December 4) on the need for the Cabinet to find a better way of making public-expenditure decisions. He is absolutely right to propose the idea of a Cabinet committee "to consider all Government expenditure and its value to society."

I had hoped that succeeding governments could have learned from my own painful experience as Chief Secretary to the Treasury between 1974 and 1979. But decisions are clearly still being made on a rushed, "ill-thought-out" basis. "Sharing the misery" continues to substitute for a rational choice of priorities.

Willie Whitelaw's "Star Chamber" committee does not help, other than making short-term choices to enable the Cabinet to bring difficult problems to a conclusion. Indeed, Mr Whitelaw, his committee and the Cabinet itself were obviously unaware of the choice of priorities agreed by Peter Rees, the Chief Secretary, and Sir Keith Joseph.

This is because of the way the system works. I can recall a similar occasion, although involving rather larger sums. I had been seeking expenditure cuts of £1,500m from the late and sadly missed, Tony Crosland, then Secretary of State for the Environment. At the start of our "bilateral" discussions Tony "offered" cuts of £1,000m, primarily from capital expenditure in such areas as water and sewage.

In theory, I could have argued that it was a bad choice of priorities, but he was the responsible minister and, with my major problem of

achieving the target set for me by Cabinet, it would have been foolhardy in the extreme to have a row over a departmental minister's own choice of priorities.

I imagine a similar situation arose when Peter Rees was "offered" £39m by Sir Keith Joseph, although I would have thought that at least both of them, as experienced politicians, would have been aware of the eventual consequences that would inevitably flow from their agreement. They should have known, but as I have indicated, neither Mr Whitelaw nor the Cabinet would have known anything at all about the choice of priorities made by their two colleagues.

This is a crazy way of planning public expenditure, whether there are increases or reductions in a given year. Towards the end of my period in office I suggested to the Prime Minister, James Callaghan, that there should be just the kind of Cabinet committee that Peter Hordern proposed in his letter, to consider priorities in public expenditure.

The Prime Minister accepted my suggestion and set up a Cabinet committee. Unfortunately, the general election prevented us having more than a couple of meetings.

Whatever view one may hold about the present Government's choice of priorities it would be in the wider public interest if the Prime Minister re-established such a committee. It would be much better than another "Star Chamber". It would, at least, ensure that the Cabinet made its decisions knowing all the facts.

Yours sincerely,
JOEL BARNETT,
House of Lords,
December 5.

Advertising on BBC

From the Chairman of Granada Television

Sir, In today's Times (November 28) you report that an enterprising advertising agency has commissioned a poll which has come up with the information that the majority of the public would prefer a limited number of advertisements on BBC television to an increase in the licence fee.

This is not surprising. Nor would it be surprising if the public expressed a preference for a tax of a fraction of a penny on each gallon of petrol to an increase of 40 per cent in the motor vehicle licence. If, however, the public were informed that the hidden price of avoiding paying a licence tax was more lead in the petrol, and of avoiding an increase in the television licence fee was a drop in the quality of their programmes, they might then vote differently.

All experienced broadcasters know that the introduction of advertising on BBC television is bound to lead to a struggle for revenue since there is not enough available to support more than one

of the two major broadcasting systems.

For D'Arcy MacManus Masius to use Channel 4 as an example of how competition does not affect quality is, of course, sheer effrontery because, as they well know, there is no competition for revenue between ITV and Channel 4. The Government rightly decided that all advertising should be sold exclusively by ITV in order to ensure that each British broadcasting service would be complementary rather than competitive.

If the BBC were to have only five minutes of advertising each evening the result could be a drop of £110m in the annual revenue of ITV. The profits of the ITV system in the last year were less than £10m before levy and tax. Thus the struggle would be for survival and not for a share of the icing on the cake. So the BBC could have advertising but the viewer could not at the same time have *The Jewel in the Crown* or *Brideshead Revisited* from Granada.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS FORMAN, Chairman,
Granada Television,
Manchester,
November 28.

Famine in Ethiopia

From Mrs Brigit Crofton

Sir, Following recent reports in the media there is, understandably, some concern that food donated to victims of the famine, is not being received by them.

A few days ago I returned from an extensive visit to Ethiopia, where I was the UK representative on a 16-nation Unicef (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) field visit which was planned in April. We were fortunate to travel over 1,000 miles throughout the country (diplomats and journalists are normally restricted to a 60-mile radius of Addis Ababa) visiting relief camps and food distribution centres.

We saw constant evidence that food is most definitely getting through. Four thousand metric tonnes is being handled daily at Assab port. Travelling on the Keren-Assab road within four hours we passed 34 lorries carrying the equivalent of 850 tons.

The ration at the distribution centres is one bag of grain per family per month, the minimum needed for survival. The cost to the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, an extremely efficient organisation that monitors all aid received at the 187 relief camps, distribution centres, shelters, of transporting the food, is £3m monthly.

There are 14 regions in Ethiopia, Eritrea and Tigre being only two of them and where conditions are very different because of the prolonged fighting. Given this situation, what country in the world has not had a few black-marketers and profiteers?

The final tragedy would be if world public opinion now flatters and aid is reduced to the thousands and thousands of desperate, gaunt figures we have all seen on our television screens with whom I was talking last week and for whom the

earliest hope of a harvest is next August, if it rains in March - but in some areas there has been no rain for three years.

Yours faithfully,
BRIGIT CROFTON,
Haldon,
St Giles Hill,
Winchester, Hampshire,
November 29.

Ordination of women

From the Bishop of Birmingham

Sir, Fr Yarnold deserves our gratitude for his timely reminder (November 26) that the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England are both committed to positive steps to return to full communion. He comments that (from the Roman Catholic point of view) the recent decision of General Synod to proceed towards the ordination of women to the priesthood seems a backward step.

It may be helpful to point out that how we see things depends on where we stand. The question of women's ordination provides a good example of this general truth.

Anglicans (in contrast to Roman Catholics) who have arrived where they are now with regard to women's ordination after much heartsearching and sometimes through painful conflict, can be forgiven if they, in their turn, see the publication of *Inter Insigniores* by authority from Rome, without any recourse to synodical process, also as a backward step.

Would it not perhaps be better, so far as return to full communion is concerned, if we begin by recognising that each Church has to do what it has to do?

Yours faithfully,
THUGH BIRMINGHAM,
Bishop's Catechist,
Old Church Road,
Harborne, Birmingham,
November 27.

Taking exception to Church poll

From the Director of Church Society

Sir, The Archbishop of York (December 1) objects to the Gallup poll on current religious attitudes because, in the first place, it is commissioned by Church Society which, he claims, is representative of an extreme wing of the Church of England. The doctrinal basis of Church Society is the same as that of the Church of England - the 39 Articles of Religion.

The subjects to be covered by the poll were discussed, but the drafting of the questions was left to the Gallup organization, who conferred not only with Church Society, but with theologians of other traditions. Our concern was simply to know the facts about the present doctrinal and moral state of the Church of England. Such a survey was felt to be necessary and in the interests of all.

The Archbishop also takes exception to the poll because he thinks that in principle theological subjects cannot be reduced to simple questions. This is a fundamental objection which would apply not merely to this poll but to any poll.

We do not believe that theology is such a tender plant that it can only be grown in academic groves. If Christian beliefs defied clear and simple expression, as the Archbishop suggests, it is doubtful whether Christianity would ever have made its way in the world at all. Our Lord frequently addressed simple questions to his hearers. "What think ye of Christ?" is he David's son or David's Lord? or again, "John's baptism, is it from heaven or of men?"

If it is argued that such questions should never be asked then we are saying that Christian beliefs are a matter for silence rather than speech. I wonder whether that is not the blind alley down which the qualifications and hesitations of modern theology are leading the Church.

Finally, the Archbishop fears that the poll will lead to unnecessary polarization. What we seek is not polarization, but clarification where now there is confusion and bewilderment.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID N. SAMUEL, Director,
Church Society,
Whitefield House,
186 Kensington Park Road, SE11,
December 3.

Student grants

From the Registrar and Secretary of the University of East Anglia

Sir, In 1981 the University of East Anglia, in common with many others, was faced by the need to make substantial cuts. The Council, of which Mr Couss (December 5) is a member, reacted by undertaking a detailed review of activities designed, in particular, to protect academic excellence so far as was possible.

Mr Couss mentions his inability, as a member of the council, to obtain any cutback in the level of non-teaching expenditure. In fact, in the three years since 1981 the council has approved reductions in non-teaching expenditure of just under £1m per annum in current prices, or about 15 per cent, involving the loss of some 55 posts.

In the same period the academic departments of the university have been required to make cuts averaging 10 per cent. Within that figure the council has nevertheless been able to approve increases in areas such as electronic engineering and computer science where universities are currently being urged to concentrate their development.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL G. E. PAULSON-ELLIS,
Registrar and Secretary,
University of East Anglia,
The Registry,
Norwich,
Norfolk,
December 6.

Book production costs

From Mr Stuart Henderson

Sir, British book printers will be astonished by Bryan Appleyard's article (November 26) commenting on current book production costs. British printers have become increasingly competitive in the last four years, winning back trade from abroad and, by using much of the available new technology, have held prices well below inflation levels.

Production costs of books represent about 15 per cent to 20 per cent of the retail price. Of this proportion, paper will be between 30 per cent for short-run novels and 70 per cent for popular paperbacks.

A novel selling at £8.95 in 1983 was likely to have cost about £1.35 to produce, of which paper will have been about 50p. At present this cost at worst might have risen by 20p - 5p for the printer and 15p for paper. Costs of distribution and retailing are high and margins slim.

VAT, if imposed, would certainly be another heavy blow. The printer and papermaker should not, however, be used as the publisher's Aunt Sally.

Yours faithfully,
STUART HENDERSON,
Commercial Director,
British Printing Industries Federation,
11 Bedford Row, WC1,
November 26.

Crowd control

From Mr C. J. Williams

Sir, The solution to the problem of how to conduct a meeting of British Telecom's shareholders (letter, December 1) is obvious - hold a phone-in!

Yours faithfully,
C. J. WILLIAMS,
Barton Steps,
Newtown,
Bradford-on-Avon,
Wiltshire,
December 2.

EL MANNIN
varied writer

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Travel: Wonderful wildlife
on safari in Tanzania;
Skiing in the French Alps;
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the most of Malta

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games; In the Garden;
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17, 18
Guide to London's panto
season; The Week:
Critics' guide to TV, Music,
Opera, Theatre, Films
Radio, Auctions and Sport

8-14 DECEMBER 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

It takes more than a shopping trolley, some glue and a few bits of wood to make your own aircraft - but they are a start.
Ronald Faux meets the dogged dreamers following in the slipstream of the Wright brothers

Homely flights of fancy

Resting gently on its nose, like a bird foraging for insects, Don Foreman's aeroplane resembles no other. It might have drifted down from outer space. Pencil sleek, wings swept severely back, engine moulded into the rear of the fuselage, it perches on two slimly bowed undercarriage legs. A small canard wing sprouts across its nose like a stiffly waxed moustache. But for all its unconventional looks on the ground, in the air the plane will cruise along at 170mph doing the road equivalent of 50 miles to the gallon.

The Rutan Vari-EZ from the United States, together with its revolutionary relatives, has brought a new air of elegance to light aviation. The plastic foam construction is doing for small planes what glass fibre has done for sailing craft - more strength for less weight and much easier maintenance.

Mr Foreman completed the aircraft in about a year and went on to build its big brother, the Long-EZ, which has an even more spectacular performance, a cruising speed of 190mph coupled with a range of 1,300 miles. Bert Rutan, the designer of this Pegasus among planes, set a new light aircraft record by flying one of them non-stop from Alaska to Florida, a distance of 4,800 miles. He used the space normally occupied by the passenger seat for extra fuel.

The implications for enthusiasts seeking to build their own aircraft, Mr Foreman believes, are now formidable.

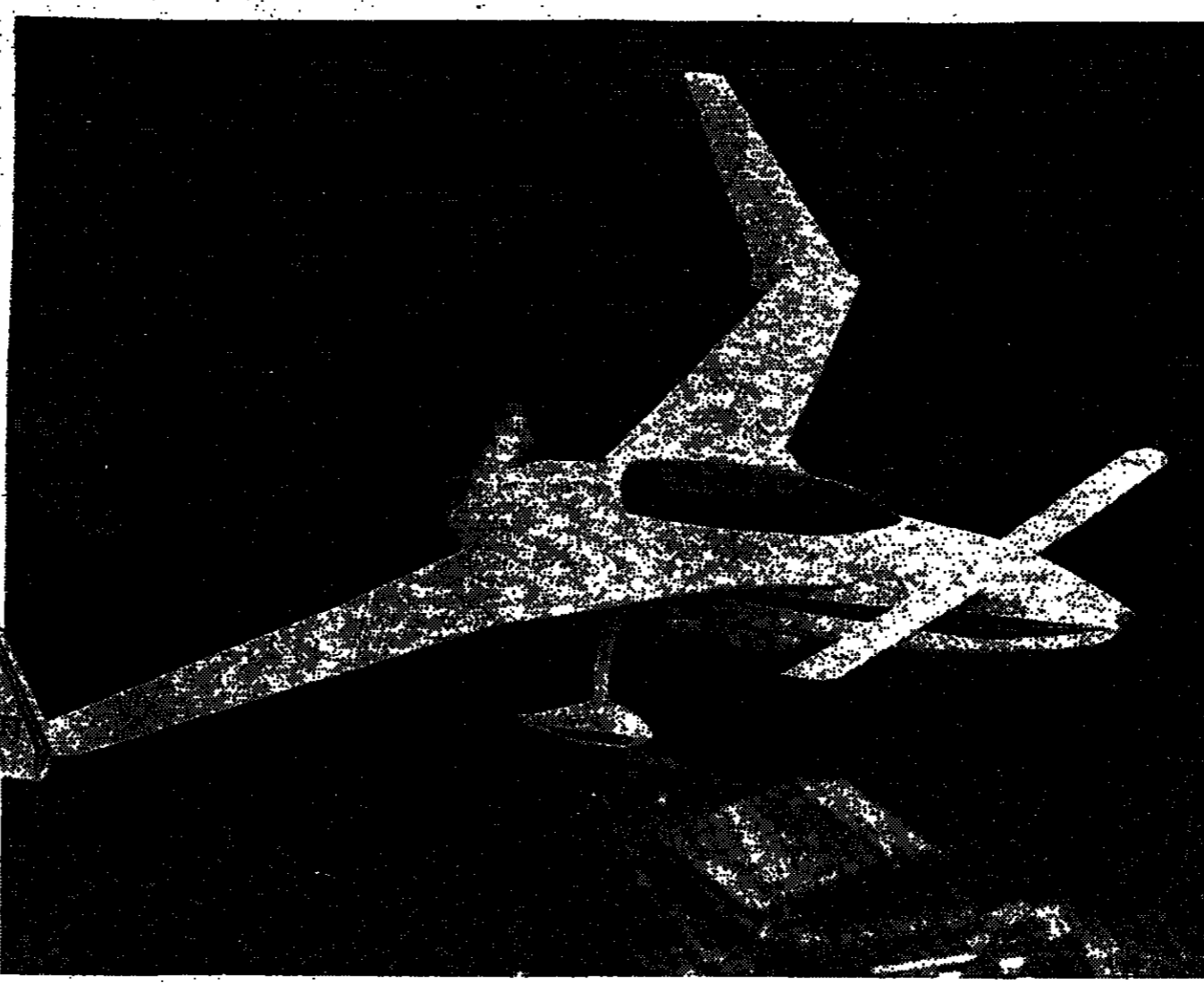
The strength of the new materials relative to their weight is on a ratio of three to one compared with the usual spruce spars, perhaps more important for the home builder, the planes are much faster to build. A wing that once took six months to complete can now be

finished in seven days and would have twice the strength, Mr Foreman claims. Aircraft that once demanded thousands of hours spread over nine or ten years could now be finished in 18 months: the flying man would be ready to take off in his magnificent machine, which would have a finish unblemished by the rivets or skeletal ribs that disturb a perfectly smooth airflow.

For most people, flying is simply the fastest way of getting from where they are to where they want to be: orderly, swift transport that may give a brief and entirely incidental glimpse of the hazy earth 30,000ft below. The notion of climbing into an aircraft built in an attic or garage might appear to be quite as lethal as amateur brain surgery.

Not so to the ranks of enthusiasts who dismiss the most advanced jet airliner as a mere "blow lamp". Because aviation has become so bounded by rules and regulations, largely necessary in a small and overcrowded airspace, they seek to recreate a pioneering approach - flying for sensation rather than convenience and devoting years to building an aircraft for therapeutic pleasure rather than for what it will eventually be worth.

There are about 1,000 tyro aviators or qualified pilots in Britain at the moment building their own aircraft. The whiff of glue, resin or dope is drifting across the face of many a marriage. Cars freeze at the curbside because the garage is occupied by a fledgling wing. The aircraft range from improbable designs with little chance ever of flying to superbly finished machines that most certainly will. For some people the greatest pleasure lies in the



years of patient construction devoted to transforming a technical drawing into something which flies. For others "home building" an aircraft is the only financially viable way of taking up an otherwise costly sport.

The popular flying association (PFA), which guides and monitors the activities of amateur aircraft builders, represents the grass roots of traditional aviation. Its inspectors are based in every region of Britain and at various stages during construction will check the work and certify that it is to standard. Branches of the PFA, known appropriately as struts, give mutual support to builders who are often not highly skilled as carpenters, metal workers or engine mechanics.

"The most important quality is a kind of doggedness of spirit, to keep going when nothing seems to fit and there seems precious little progress. You have to enjoy watching the aeroplane slowly emerge and unless you are exceptional you can reckon on taking twice as long as it says on the instructions. You get out what you put in", one home builder told me.

He had started with an unlimited ambition to fly but with strictly limited means. "I thought about hang gliding first but using my legs as an undercarriage put me off. Microflight aircraft were the next step up, but they seemed to be having a lot of problems at the time, what with accidents and impending legislation. The aircraft that the PFA promotes certainly looked a lot more substantial, they have a better



Plane living: Long EZ built and flown by Don Foreman, a businessman from Kent, with building plans (top); Mr Foreman (left) and David Machin building a similar aircraft at Mr Machin's home; control console (bottom)

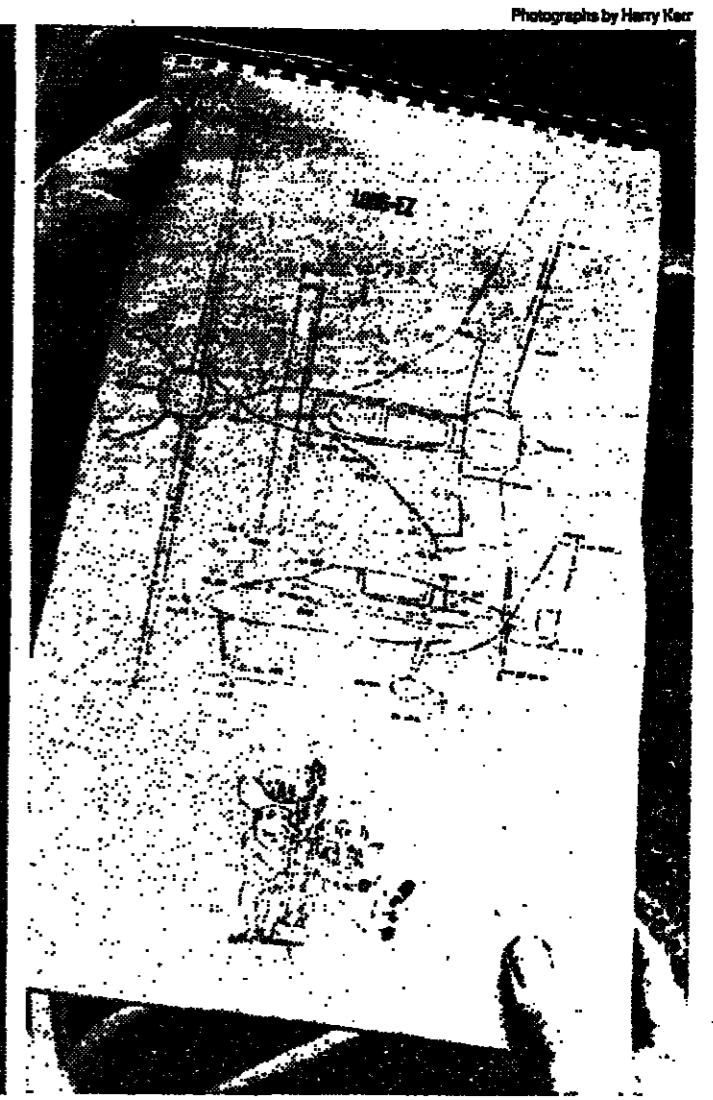
and assembled ready to fly in two minutes.

Some favourites have been established such as the Turbulent and the Taylor Monoplane, both delightfully simple aircraft that look the part of the home-built plane. There is also a popular "take-home" machine called a Fred, the plans for which can be bought for £20 from an address in Oklahoma.

Recalling the five years he spent building a Fred, one enthusiast was obliged constantly to strive to keep costs down and adapted two scooter wheels as the main undercarriage. The tail wheel came from an abandoned shopping trolley (the find left him with three spares) and was braced against two bed springs. On the maiden flight one of the rudder pedals tore free from its single piano hinge but was quickly replaced.

Watching the test pilot take the aircraft up for the first time clearly thrilled the builder. "I could remember filling my first piece of metal and sawing the first piece of wood five years earlier. Now there it was at the end of the runway and it actually flew."

Traditional builders move at a slower pace than the seasons. They are apt to talk about the year of the wings, the year of the fuselage, the summer of frantic fabricating and doping, trying to finish ahead of the cooler autumn temperatures and the winter of the engine. "Man needs something to pit his wits against", declared another stoic pilot who spent seven years building an aircraft which he flew for nine hours. Then the engine stopped and he crashed



into a field at 100mph. He was unhurt and spent the following summer repairing his plane.

Another enthusiast from the North asked me not to use his name but offered his experience as a warning of the wrong way to go about building an aeroplane. "I was seduced by the sales literature for a two-seater model from America. It was an ultra-light and from the specification seemed to be exactly what I was after. The main attraction was that it would only take six months to build and I swallowed the lot, paid out £3,300 and waited for it to arrive."

It took a while to reach him from the United States and when it did the problems started almost at once. The first was completely unexpected, a villainously bloodshot eye and hands that swelled into large, weeping blisters. "I could not touch anything and water dripped from them. I had to wear three pairs of gloves", he recalled. His allergic reaction to the fibre glass resins never really healed in the three years it took to build the aircraft.

The same thing happened three more times and once the runway not only rushed towards him but actually started to chew its way into the cockpit. It ended with him hanging upside down but unscathed with the plane sticking up vertically from the runway. It now rests in peace and pieces in his garage, three years in the building and six minutes in the air: a memorial to the wrong course in aircraft building.

Parts of the kit did not fit and had to be adapted or reshaped and the project turned into a slow slog against time as the new legislation of microflight planes was approaching, removing much of the freedom the planes had enjoyed until that time.

By then he had got a pilot's licence and he took his new, rugged looking aircraft down to his local airfield. Fitting the huge oblong wings in the slightest wind was a nightmare but he managed it and gingerly taxied the plane along the runway. "I was going along very steadily and slowly but the next thing I knew I was 20ft in the air. I thought 'I don't know whether this thing works or not' and I tried pushing the stick forward to get back on to the ground. It made no difference, nothing happened so I shut the throttle and it dropped like a rock, hit the ground and the nosewheel collapsed."

He now reflects: "With hindsight it is all, of course, very clear. I would now be very sceptical about the claims made in brochures. First of all decide exactly what you want from flying and what you can afford in terms of time and cash. Find a proven design with a good, safe track record and if possible fly one before you finally commit yourself. If it is a kit, make sure the supplier has an established trading record and that the type is approved by or at least known to the PFA. If I'd done that I would be a happier man and I would now have an aircraft I could actually fly."

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Building up to the moment of take-off

Don Foreman is now preparing to build his third Rutan aircraft, the Defiant, a twin-engine machine of great elegance and high performance. He expects the work to take him two years and to cost between £20,000 and £30,000. "The point is that at the end I will have an aircraft worth between £120,000 and £130,000."

The cost of building varies enormously, depending on choice of aircraft and means. A single-seat light plane powered by a converted Volkswagen car engine could be completed for just over £1,000; a two-seat trainer-tourer with a new Rolls Royce Continental engine could be as much as £3,500.

Don Foreman admitted that his Vari-EZ would cost between £5,000 and £7,000 to build, including instruments and radio. The price of a Long-EZ is between £10,000 and £15,000, depending on instruments and engine. It would take between 1,500 and 2,000 man hours to complete but eventually be worth more than £30,000.

He says the Rutan plans were easy to follow and did not require special skills. Working with plastic meant that a workshop with stable heating and humidity were essential but the saving in time from building in glass fibre was worth the preparation. Resins had been developed that no longer made the eyes red or the hands blistered.

But how safe are these extraordinary and stylish aircraft? Don Foreman agreed that some home-built designs did require more than ordinary skill to fly but the Rutan Long-EZ, for example, was in a different class. The smaller Canard wing on the nose deflected the main wing against a stall while the main wingtip fins prevented the aircraft from spinning. Thus two of the main dangers in flying light aircraft were removed. "It is the design worked out by the Wright Brothers and they did indeed get it right", he said.

The guide and governing body for amateur aircraft-builders is the Popular

Flying Association (PFA), founded in 1946. Run by aviation enthusiasts for aviation enthusiasts, it is based at Terminal Building, Shoreham Airport, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex (07917 61616). It lists more than 100 types of aircraft, 39 of them PFA-approved, including single and twin seaters and amphibians.

Membership costs £12 a year. There is no fee for the inspections carried out during the building programme. An initial permit to fly costs £82 or £164 depending on the size of the aircraft; renewals are £41 or £82.

Projects are registered with the association and each has a logbook which is kept up to date for the PFA inspector who will check the building at various stages. When the aircraft is ready to fly and has satisfied all its criteria, the PFA is empowered by the Civil Aviation Authority to issue a permit to fly. This imposes rather tighter restrictions on the use of the aircraft, but is substantially cheaper than a certificate of airworthiness issued by the CAA.

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TRAVEL 1

Shona Crawford Poole finds wildlife, Masai mudhuts and a conservation dilemma on safari in Tanzania

Where man and beast see eye to eye

A running leopard, close and cross, is an indelibly beautiful sight. It leapt into the beam of the Land-Rover's headlights and ran a short way up the road before slinking into the undergrowth. A tuft of its tail twitched among the leaves and its face, half-shadowed, looked out with a steady wide-eyed gaze. I suppose we had given it a fright, but the excitement was mutual.

When the dry season comes to an end, grass, animals and their spare Masai herdsman are

forbidden to plant crops or build permanent houses within the conservation area — although there is official encouragement for them to do both in other places. Were they getting an unnecessary hard deal?

I think it was this question which resulted in an invitation to visit a Masai village where it was plain to see that people were healthy, well fed and not seething with discontent.

Chief Ngaitai's seven wives and their 40 or so children — he was not sure of the exact number — live in a group of small thatched houses built of wattle and dung. The toddlers wear bells on their ankles in case they stray too far from the women and older girls who sit out in the sunshine making their distinctive beaded collars and shawing each others' heads.

From one of the houses came a bellowing, masculine cough. Chief Ngaitai emerged from the home of his third and favourite wife wearing a blanket, wellingtons and a woollen hat. In terms of wealth he is an important man. He is also the elected spokesman for his area and much respected.

An invitation to talk inside the house was not to be refused. The entrance is low, labyrinthine. Blind in the blackness I was guided by a dry unseen hand around the glow of embers on the floor. It smelled marvelously of woodsmoke. Small holes in the outside walls let in no more than a chink of light. The hard leather platform offered as a seat turned out to be the chief's bed and his shoes were wedged in a crack between the bed and a dividing wall of woven wood polished by passing hands.

His favourite wife, my "fellow mama" they said, prepared tobacco for him while he talked of cattle, of customs and of the dialogue with the conservators.

In the Serengeti the conservators' work is very different. Professional poachers and lack of funds to fight them mean that the wardens and rangers are short of boots and knapsacks as well as radios and sophisticated surveillance equipment. The shortages allow poaching to increase but these are not the shortages that visitors first remark. Lightbulbs, ice, and mineral water cannot be more important than rhinos but they are more quickly missed.

Tanzanians are not easy people to rile. In the distribution of the world's good nature and good manners they have been given a generous share.

Only one subject winds up every Tanzanian I met and that is the unresolved border dispute with Kenya. What sticks in the Tanzanian craw is the way Kenya persists in perpetuating an impression that some of the earth's finest wildlife resources, the Serengeti plain and the



Zebra crossing: Tanzania offers the best wildlife viewing in Africa

Ngorongoro crater are Kenya's. They are not.

Tanzanians accuse Kenya of misrepresenting Tanzania's assets as her own. They say that it happens all the time. Attentive viewers of *The Natural World* programme about Kenya broadcast on BBC 2 on Sunday evening may have noted an instance for themselves.

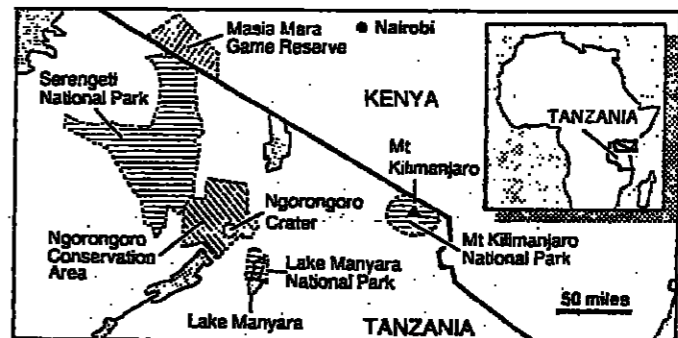
Quarrels between neighbours and former partners are not easy to make up. Tourism thrived on co-operation while Tanzania and Kenya were partners with Uganda in the East African Community. Then Nairobi was the principal safari centre and the majority of Tanzania's visitors crossed the land border on Kenyan packages using Kenyan vehicles.

When the community broke up in 1977, the border was shut. Now it is open again but access to tourist vehicles is still strictly limited. So the old safari routes driving south and west from Nairobi are no longer accessible on any great scale. Negotiations between the two countries sputter and start and in the meantime Tanzania struggles alone to fill its pockets with tourist gold.

TRAVEL NOTES

The Tanzania Tourist Corporation has offices at 77 South Audley Street, London W1 (01-499 7727). It offers promotional literature including leaflets on all the state-run lodges and services on and off the safari circuit. A package tour has a lot to recommend it in Tanzania unless your budget will stretch to a very luxurious safari with a specialist operator. In a country where flights are cancelled without warning and telephone communication is patchy and often impossible, it is more useful if the travel arrangements are someone else's worry. There is probably not much any tour operator can do when changes of itinerary are forced upon him, by breakdowns and shortages but hotel beds and meals paid for in advance will be provided somewhere at no extra cost to the packaged traveller. Speedbird Holidays offers a week long Serengeti safari in Tanzania with flights to Nairobi by British Airways and from there to Kilimanjaro by Air Tanzania, with a further beach or safari week spent in Kenya. Prices start at £295. Other operators offering Tanzanian

packages include Exodus Expeditions, KLM, Twickers World, Abercrombie and Kent, Kuoni, and Encounter Overland. Tanzania's water is drinkable but health precautions of various kinds are necessary. Medicines of every type are for practical purposes, unobtainable in Tanzania so be sure to pack everything you are likely to need. Yellow fever, cholera, typhoid and polio immunization is recommended and malaria pills should be started two weeks before arriving in the country. Protection against hepatitis is worth considering. All the state run lodges and hotels are being renovated and standards vary from clean and well run to drab and dirty. Ask for another room if you are visited by cockroaches. Food in the game parks follows a pretty monotonous meat and two veg school dinners pattern except for the meat which is tougher, tastier and often game. Tanzanian wine is undrinkable. Safari beer is excellent, £2 a bottle everywhere for everyone, and the only really efficient thing in the country. It is always cold. East Africa by Nina Casimati, published by Travelaid, £4.95, is a good basic guide book. *Journey Through Tanzania* by Amin, Willets and Marshall published by Bodley Head, £19.95, is a coffee table picture book with readable text.



What a day it had been. Only minutes before, the lights had caught two magnificent maned young lions striking Trafalgar Square poses at the roadside. Their lion coloured eyes were a perfect match for their coats and they were less than 10ft away. On a parched, lumpy plain they would have been invisible, but approaching the rim of the Ngorongoro crater the altitude was nearing 5,500 ft. Lush greenery dripped moisture. Tanzania was looking much like darkest Hampshire on a wet summer's night.

Driving from Lake Manyara and the first in a chain of lodges that stretches across the northern game parks, there had been elephants, ostriches, a rhinoceros, and the Lake Manyara lions that sleep in trees with paws and tails hanging loosely from the branches. The list lengthened with wildebeest, zebras, cape buffalo, monkeys, baboons, giraffes, waterbuck, warthogs, vultures, and an owl of particularly striking aspect.

Cheetahs, hyenas, jackals and many more species would wait for the days ahead. Already Tanzania was justifying its claim of offering the best wildlife viewing in Africa.

Next morning the crater rim was in cloud, hiding from view the eighth wonder of the world, its largest intact volcanic caldera. There were free-range eggs for breakfast, a blessing the Third World can count on, and no hot water for bathing, which is almost as predictable.

Armed with cameras and

collapsible cardboard picnic boxes filled with zebra sandwiches, which are very tasty, visitors trickle into the crater in low gear, shedding sweaters as they drop 2,000 feet. On parallel paths great herds of cattle pick their way down narrow tracks. The humped zebu cattle are white, brown, black and brindled and as lean as antelopes.

When the dry season comes to an end, grass, animals and their spare Masai herdsman are

sepia tinted with parched earth. There is a muffled drumming of hooves as they pass in a dusty swirl. It is an imposing picture.

After the cattle have drunk from pools in the crater floor and licked its salt, they will be driven up over the edge again leaving its 100 square miles to the wild animals and those who come to look at them.

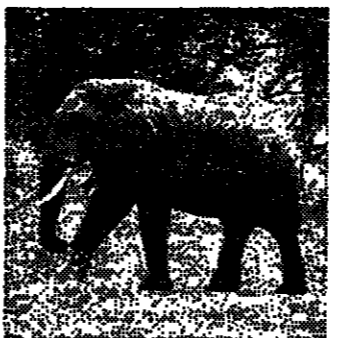
At an average selling price of £300 each in the local monthly livestock markets, we could be looking at cattle worth as much as a million pounds to their Masai owners. We are certainly looking at one of the great conservation dilemmas, the overlapping and usually conflicting needs of wild and human life.

Tribesmen, tourists and conservators alike have severely limited access to the crater. Joseph ole Kuwai, its chief conservation officer, plans to move his headquarters away from the crater's edge to a place where his staff and their families, nearly 1,000 people, can grow vegetables and lead a less restricted life.

The nomadic Masai are



Happy wanderer: Mzee Kirenyima, typical of the Masai



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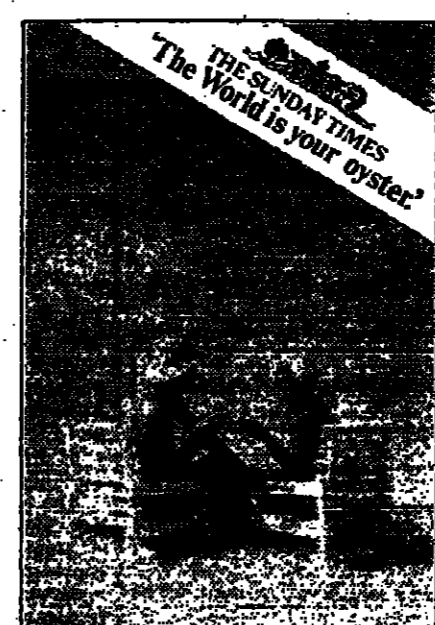


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Beryl Downing on unusual gifts for children

VALUES

All presents and correct

Play is too serious to be left to children. Take away the television and they would be happy with a cardboard box and a broom handle, so shall we be honest and admit that all toys are aimed at adults?

We all know the Dad-and-dad joke - only now he buys computer games and plays with them on his own. But what about the sappy soft toys and the cute babywears? The babies couldn't care less but their grannies love them. What about educational toys? They may or may not make a Pythagoras of our progeny, but they are guaranteed to make us feel clever and worthy for having selected them.

Left to themselves, children are choosing this year Cate Bears, Cabbage Patch dolls, any television character and, according to the Good Toy Guide 1985 (Play Matters/The National Toy Libraries Association, £3.95), the same gun and griddle type of toys that they have selected since Santa was in short pants.

The guns this year are represented in the guide by a game featuring the SAS and The Enemy, with a mobile missile launch "to enhance the imaginative possibilities". The modern



Very presentable: Master of the Universe fortress £19.99 with pirate, gypsy and devil masks 49p each

0-5 Ewok: cuddly toy with a difference. Not just a bear or a monkey but Leoni from the Return of the Jedi - 8in high with surface-washable synthetic fur. Made in Haiti, not to be given to children aged under three. By Pallo, £7.50 from Harrods.

5-10 Frog jumping jack: Jolly green frog-on-a-stick (illustrated) with a string to pull arms and legs. English made, non-toxic paint, £3.95 (80p p&p) from Oscar's Den, 127 Abbey Road, London NW6 (01-328 6883) and 15 Buckingham Place Road, London SW1 (01-328 3303). Doll and monkey also available.

10-15+ Glowspell: A flat packet containing three sets of luminous letters that glow in the dark for about half an hour - an alphabet of capitals, two of lower case and five additional vowels. To place on an existing blackboard. Price £4.95. Also

Glowstars - 96 shapes of stars, moons, planets, UFOs and rockets to turn a nursery ceiling into a luminous sky at night and encourage children to go to sleep. Price £1.25 by mail from Glowstars, P.O. Box No 4, Solinas Lane, Dagenham, Essex RM8 1SJ (01-552 1171).

Popoids: Bandy, stretchy pieces, easy for small hands to pop together. The Puffy Faces kit contains a body, hands, huge eyeballs, shoes, bow tie and bendy joints. By Tony, recommended age three plus. Price £4.99 (£1.70 p&p) from Tridias, 6 Bennett Street, Bath (0225 314730) and 6 Lichfield Terrace, Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey (01-948 3458). They call the kit "Creatures" in their catalogue.

Soft Blocks: Six fabric cubes soft enough for the smallest people to build up and knock down without getting hurt. Colourfully decorated with simple pictures. For ages from six months to two years £5.95 at branches of W. H. Smith and shown in their catalogue of toys chosen by John and Elizabeth Newson of the Child Development Research Unit at Nottingham University.

5-10 Asterix the Gaul: Plastic models of the French cartoon characters, each with its own accessories. Asterix and Obelix come in one pack with shields and helmets and accompanying wild boars, £4.50. Other single characters are available from £1.99 and the largest pack is a Roman encampment at £22.99. All at Hamleys, 188 Regent Street, London W1 and 48 Milson Street, Bath, Avon.

George: A friendly-looking computer robot (illustrated) with a top of the head keyboard and synthesized lighting and sound effects. A simple educational introduction to programming - George can be given up to 48 commands to move in straight lines or curves, remember where he has been and return to base. Batteries not included. By CGL Electronics Toys, £19.99 from Hamleys, Regent Street, London W1.

Master of the Universe: Moulded plastic fortress 18in x 24in with monster drawbridge, trapdoor, weapons and racks, all to be assembled. Not new, but very popular. Note - the box shows figures, too, but these are not included. By Mattel, £19.99, from Hamleys.

Personalized books: These incorporate your own child's name in the computer-printed story. Choose from My Jungle Adventure, Christmas Adventure or Birthday Adventure, all beginning "Once upon a time there was a little boy (girl) called...". Parents fill in a form with name, age, address of the child, with names of a pet and friends or relations and these are written into the story. It takes about 20 minutes and is done on the spot next to the toy department at

Debenhams, Oxford Street, London W1 and branches at Guildford, New Croydon and Romford. By Buttercup Books, £4.95, or available by mail (credit card only) - dial 100 and ask for Freeform Buttercup.

Included. Made by Cardel Designs, £4.75 from the Design Centre shop, 28 Haymarket, London SW1.

Screen Printing Starter Kit: Contains a screen frame and squeegee, four tubes of water-based screen ink, 20 sheets of stencil paper, 25 sheets printing cartridge paper, one plain white handkerchief (the inks are not washable when applied to fabrics). By Dryad, £5.95 from John Lewis.

Victorian half-masks: Lifesize costume masks for dressing up or party going. Among them a devil, gypsy, maid, 49p each. Complete selection of eight different masks £3.75 (£1.70 p&p) from Tridias.

Research by Nina Ford

10-15+ Billy Butler deluxe Tool Chest: Well-made, hinged box containing hammer, chisel, small saw, screwdrivers and other tools, all slotted into swing-away racks (illustrated). By Red Robin Toys, recommended age eight plus, but these tools are sharp, so we are erring on the cautious side. Price £3.95 from branches of John Lewis.

Bentamp Electronic Keyboard: At the touch of a button it can be made to sound like an organ, clarinet, violin, piano, harpsichord or glockenspiel and has six rhythms - waltz, swing, slow rock, disco rock, latin and tango. There are 25 keys and the easy play chord computer allows you to record all major, minor, seventh and diminished chords and then play them back. For beginners and experts up to any age. £39.95 from Salfordgate, Oxford Street, London W1 (01-629 1234).

Fun with Make-Eight: A 14in cardboard tube containing sheets of cut-out shapes which will make up into eight space models which dock together. Non-toxic glue

EATING OUT

Close comfort for tired shoppers

As the Christmas shopping marathon gathers pace, we report on four central London feeding stations for the willing consumer.

Those brave souls who face up to the seasonal mayhem in London's central shopping areas probably deserve more for their efforts than just a department store cup of tea. Fortunately, the growing trend towards all-day eating (as a prelude to all-day drinking?) has produced a number of pleasant, accommodating restaurants in key areas.

Shoppers in Knightsbridge or Sloane Street will find much to enjoy at Le Metro, a cramped but smartly-furnished wine bar in the shadow of Harrods. The bar is in fact the "breakfast room" for the small, French country style hotel at 28 Basil Street owned by Margaret and David Levin. They also run the stylish Capital Hotel next door, with the result that its much fêted chef, Brian Turner, supervises the lunch and supper menu at Le Metro.

This distinguished connection accounts for Le Metro's accomplished but reasonably priced dishes. Smoked fillet of goose with frisée salad - warm chicken livers - (£2), and a delicate mousse of smoked eel with cucumbers (£1.75) appear among a short list of starters which, together with a cream of watercress soup (£1.50), and a plate of quality French cheeses (£1.50) form an excellent range of snacks.

More substantial meals are available - lamb's liver with onions (£4.50), gigot de lotte aux champignons (£4.25) and splendidly tender lamb slices in a light mustard sauce (£4.25). With a couple of choice puddings (gateau,

choux pastry filled with hazelnut cream) and expertly prepared coffee, Le Metro will send you back in to the fray in good heart.

You may wish to linger at Le Metro however, once you discover its Croquer machine, a device which allows fine bottles of wine to be opened, and served by the glass, without spoiling the rest of the bottle, or indeed your wallet.

While Le Metro offers breakfast and lunches, but pauses before dinner, the bright and breezy Soho Brasserie operates for almost 14 hours a day and lives up to its French name by offering a comprehensive collection of well-executed meals, from breakfast to all-day snacks and top-of-the-range restaurant dishes.

The dazling, chrome-crusted bar is fronted by a few tables and chairs for the casse-croûtes - omelettes (with Gruyère or fines herbes), savouries (hot leek tart), salads (chèvre with olives and tomatoes) and soups (cream of mushroom) - while a

smartly-upholstered restaurant at the rear offers more substantial fare.

The menu is modish but sensible, despite the inevitable vegetable terrine, here with a red pepper vinaigrette. Cumberland sausages with apple sauce (£4.25), grilled calves' liver and a daily assortment of fish dishes (perhaps grilled red mullet with tomato sauce, £3.95) should provide more than enough to bridge the gap.

To try the British approach to all-day eating, Covent Garden shoppers should adjourn to Smith's, a brightly converted, spacious basement beneath the Seven Dials art gallery. Smith's offers a three-tiered operation - à la carte and fixed price menus (£5.80 and £6.95) at lunch and dinner, and a mid-afternoon snack/tea and pastry list.

The food is a fairly basic list of grilled meats and fish (sirloin steak, calves' liver with lemon and sage, plaice, trout with mushrooms), together with crusty pies (steak, kidney and mushrooms, £2.95).

Here you might find avocado and cashew nut mousse, fried camembert and almonds with redcurrant jelly, and braised ox tail. Strapping puddings - whiskey trifle, profiteroles and crème brûlée - and a refreshing array of fragrant teas should give you the strength to cope with the hordes in the Garden. High Street Kensington shoppers can enjoy similarly patriotic meals in Sheppard's

a rather cold, coloured bodecent. Considerable calories can be taken on board, however, in the shape of hot broccoli mousse, huge venison casserole, chicken and mushroom pie and delicious Bakewell tart. The menu operates as a £9.50 prix fixe for three course dinners, and £4.85 for two-course lunches.

Stan Hey

DRINK

A case of the eleventh hour

Struggling home from the supermarket with plastic bags full of bottles may not be the most relaxing method of purchasing Christmas wines, but it is certainly one of the cheapest. Fortunately, for those who are either unwilling or unable to visit the supermarkets featured in last week's Christmas wines article, there is still the alternative of traditional mail-order wine merchants. Although most companies have already closed

their Christmas order books there are still a few merchants who are prepared to make deliveries at the eleventh hour. Adams, that excellent Southwold wine firm, run by stylish Simon Loftus, can deliver before Christmas, provided you order by Wednesday. This year they are offering

seven Christmas cases of which the cheapest is the appropriately named Survival Kit (£16) containing three bottles: a Saumur méthode champenoise sparkling - La Grande Marque Brut - an old amonillado sherry (Adams' Directors' Choice) and Southwold Tawny port.

The Two Rivers case, featuring Rhône and Loire wines, is also reasonably priced at £36 for twelve bottles - six of an '83 Côte de Rhône - the well-made Château du Grand Moulin - and six of an '83 Muscadet de Sevre et Maine - the Fief de la Brie. The contents of their Classic Burgundy case would cheer up any cold, festive spread: six bottles of an '83 Maçon-Villages - Jean Thévenet's splendid Domaine de la Bon Grant - and six of Aubert de Villaine's (the co-owner of Romanée Conti) equally impressive '82 Bourgogne Rouge - La Digoine, Adams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk (0502 722138).

Bibendum, the Regent's Park wine emporium run by Christopher Collins will also accept Christmas wine orders provided you contact him this week, preferably on Monday but by Thursday at the latest. Bibendum's Christmas Wine Fair is very popular with North Londoners and sells everything from the invaluable and recently improved Pocket Screwpull (at what must be the cheapest price in the country - £6.50), to antique faceted Georgian glass decanters at £60, glasses and wine coolers.

Bibendum's Christmas wines are packed in handsome wooden cases are equally tempting and I would be very happy if Father Christmas were to present me with either a case of Warre's superb '77 vintage port (£132.25 per case) or a Jeroboam of George Goulet champagne (£166). Worth looking out for as well is Gascony's excellent and inexpensive Vin Sauvage fizz: its flowery, passion-fruit bouquet and taste would make a perfect December sparkler (£3.62). Bibendum, 113 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 (586 9761), minimum order one case.

Magical Wine Warehouses have organized a free port tasting at all their warehouses (see the list below) for today and tomorrow. There will be five ports available for tasting including Graham's 1978 Late Bottled Vintage (£4.99), and a range of ports from the Portuguese house of Borges & Irnau including a Tawny Port (£3.96) and a single quinta or estate port - the Quinta do Junco 1975. I am much more tempted, however, by their claret tasting which only features one wine, the '82 Château Méaume - a Bordeaux Supérieur from a St. Emilion estate owned by a young Englishman, Alan Johnson Hill and his wife. The Johnson Hills believe in traditional viticulture and modern vinification techniques and like all '82 petit châteaux wines, Méaume displays a good deal more class than other years.

Château Méaume '82 is made predominantly from the Merlot grape and has a big, full purple colour backed up by a rich, ripe, fruity bouquet and palate with some grassy overtones (due to its youth). Priced at just £3.99 per bottle (that's £39.48 for Majestic's minimum order of one case), Méaume '82 is a real December bargain.

Oddbins is another good source of modestly priced December wines and at a recent tasting they showed a range of 11 southern French wines which now account for 22 per cent of their total sales of red wine. The best wine in this inexpensive line-up was a non-vintage red Vin de Pays from the Côteaux de Peyrie (an area that lies in the western zone of the Minervois), made from a mix of typical southern French

FROM THE GLENS OF STRATHPEY

Discover the secrets of Cardhu.

This Speyside malt whisky's secrets have been appreciated by malt drinkers since 1824.

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The superb flavour originates from the Cardhu Distillery high in the glens of Strathpey, where the water springing from the icy mountain streams is as pure as the whisky.

Its smoothness and character may best be appreciated after dinner. Turn the beechwood stopper and discover for yourself the delicious secrets of Cardhu.

Cardhu 12 Year Old Highland Malt Whisky

Distilled by CARDHU Distillery, Aberlour, Banffshire, since 1824.

Rioja and Christmas

At Christmas the tradition is of course Roast Turkey, but many choose Goose, Chicken, Duck, Beef or Game. Whatever the fayne, hot or cold, drink a delicious Rioja wine, a velvety red or a dry fruity white. Don't forget those working in the kitchen! A glass of Rioja whilst preparing the family feast is always appreciated.

Explore the wonderful wines of Rioja and find a quality and value that is unequalled.

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For further information please contact The Rioja Wine Information Centre, Vinos de España, 23 Manchester Square, London W1. Tel 01-435 6140

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BARON PHILIPPE DE ROTHSCHILD

THE EXPLOITS of the young Baron Philippe de Rothschild are well-known. They are almost as legendary as his wines. It is at his insistence that we bring MOUTON CADET to your attention. The wine is vintage claret - full, round, fruity and smooth. The blanc de, too, is vintage Bordeaux - dry, light and fresh. Both bear more than the commendation of the Baron. He has judged them worthy to bear his name.

Philippe de Rothschild

Classical records of the month

Warmth and wit in one man's quest for beauty

Murray Perahia has completed his cycle of Mozart piano concertos with some of the greatest and some of the earliest concertos, and the results have a sheen and beauty it would be hard to surpass. Every inflection of Perahia's playing breathes love and commitment to the music one could listen to these records simply to marvel at the command of long-term phrase structure and short-term gesture, all accomplished within a piano sound that is warm, gracious and never brittle.

Occasionally Perahia's quest for beauty in these concertos leads him to miss their other characteristics. For all its sparkling wit, Perahia's account of the F major Concerto K459 has not yet succeeded in supplanting Pollini's recording with Böhm as my favourite with Perahia, the English Chamber Orchestra is a much more appropriately sized band than the Vienna Philharmonic with Pollini, the matching between soloist and orchestra (for instance in the phrasing of the finale theme) is much more precise. And yet Perahia's essentially soft-edged sound misses something of the brittle clarity with which Pollini makes the immensely powerful imitative writing of that finale explode.

By contrast, Pollini's K488 in the same coupling is cold and distant. Perahia takes alarmingly slow speeds for the first two movements, manages to sustain them because his phrases are so minutely graded from note to note that continuity is assured. I can imagine a very different, much leaner treatment of the tragic F sharp minor slow movement, but it is hard to imagine the finale shaped with more effervescent spirit than it is here.

The early concertos, adapted from the music of lesser composers of the time, are inevitably less interesting, but the real revelation in this batch is Perahia's rescue of the "Coronation" Concerto in D major, K537. It is often dismissed as the weakest of the mature concertos, but Perahia has its measure: he turns it into a serenely innocent dance, punching home the angular triplets in the first movement, elaborating the Larghetto delightfully, and racing through the finale with controlled glee. Among many superb recordings in this cycle, this one will surely stand as a classic.

It would be not only invidious but impossible to compare Perahia's accounts with those of Malcolm Bilson, who is just beginning his Mozart cycle on an 18th-century style instrument. The premises are different, and the sound is completely different. John Eliot Gardiner creates a large-scale sound with his period-instrument band (possibly too grand in K414), but the plangency of the string sound allows Mozart's dissonances to emerge with unusual bite and force. Because Bilson plays throughout (well balanced by the engineers so as to be quite audible at the start of both concertos), his solo passages emerge from the orchestral texture rather than seeming opposed to it.

And Bilson creates an absolutely personal, coherent musical discourse within the limits set by his instrument: a gleaming, brittle treble range; a sensuous middle range (exquisitely dark and velvety in the slow movement of K414) and gritty,

Mozart: Piano Concertos Nos 19 in F, K459; and 23 in A, K488 Murray Perahia/English Chamber Orchestra, CBS IM 39084. Mozart: Piano Concertos Nos 1-4, K27, 39, 40, 41 Murray Perahia/English Chamber Orchestra, CBS IM 39225. Mozart: Piano Concerto No 26 in D, K537, "Coronation"; Rondes K382, 386 Murray Perahia/English Chamber Orchestra, CBS IM 39224. Mozart: Piano Concertos Nos 12 in A, K414; and 14 in E flat, K449 Malcolm Bilson/English Baroque Soloists/John Eliot Gardiner, DG Archiv 413 483-1 AH. Mozart: Piano Trios in B flat, K502; and G major, K564 London Fortepiano Trio, Linda Nicholson (piano), Monica Huggett (violin), Timothy Mason (cello), Hyperion 486125.

lean bass register. He thracks the opening entry in K449 as if protesting a little too much, but the glinting, transparent interplay of the finale in that concerto allows the listener to feel himself right in the middle of the musical conversation.

A different approach to period-instrument Mozart is demonstrated on the London Fortepiano Trio's new disc (again, the second in a continuing series) of Mozart's wonderful and neglected piano trios. Here Linda Nicholson uses an original instrument, not a modern copy, by Johann Schantz, a maker Haydn admired. Though I have reservations about the recorded sound (the piano slightly too far back, too resonant, the violin too far forward), the piano sounds more crisp, bouncy, full of life, and the trios are infused with real chamber-music intimacy by these skilled players. Best of all is the finale of the B flat trio K254: astonishing that this should not be among Mozart's best-known movements, and its subtlety of construction and exuberance of spirit here sound freshly rediscovered.

Nicholas Kenyon

Numb and noble Dutchmen

Karajan's new *Flying Dutchman* lurches into view, massive and more than somewhat distraught. Recorded over a period of almost two years, between December 1981 and September last year, it spans a period of some change in his relationship with the Berlin Philharmonic, which may account for the way the accompaniment bursts brightly in short bursts; or maybe this is just a result of the editing. The effect anyway is to emphasize how near the work is to its Singspiel origins, running proudly in brief numbers that come to a dead halt. There is a strength here that is hindered by its small-scale packaging: the sound is towering and powerful, notably in the overture, but the rhythmic regularity keeps it from being as wayward and as impressive as it might be.

Other tussles come among the soloists. For his Senta, Karajan chooses Dunja Vejzovic. It is a curious step to take, and Miss Vejzovic does not quite take it: part of her, especially in the ballad and the finale, is still piercing towards the pathological venom of the other lady, Peter Hoffmann's Erik is also unappealing, and is perhaps the more worrying singer is overtaxing himself.

Kurt Moll is a jolly Daland;

Wagner: Der Fliegende Holländer, Vojtech Van Dam, Moll, Vienna Opera Chorus, Berlin Philharmonic, EMI Ex 27 00133 (three records). Wagner: Excerpts Estes, Berlin Staatskapelle/Fricka, Philips 412 271-1. Wagner: Die Walküre Soloists, Bayreuth Festival Orchestra/Böhm, Philips 412 478-2 (4 CDs). Zemlin: Der Geburtstag der Infanten Soloists, Berlin Radio SO/Albrecht, Schwann/Impetus VMS 1626 (2 records).

you can almost hear the tongue in the cheek as he trots out his bourgeois platitudes. However, the main reason for acquiring this set is to hear José van Dam's Dutchman. He sounds every bit the damned soul, singing with a greyness of tone that speaks of spiritual and emotional numbness.

This is very different from Simon Estes' performance of the Dutchman's monologue on the Dutchman's monologue on the Dutchman's monologue. Mr Estes is not chilled acceptance but suffering nobility, with a balance between anguish and maturity that is most effective here. In Amfortas's lament from the last act of *Parsifal*, I find the anguish excessive, and the indulgence of "die Wunde" tasteless. Nor is this splendid singer altogether happy in two stretches of Wotan's music from *Die Walküre*: his Act 2 nar-

ration and his farewell. Mr Estes has the royal vocal presence and the humanity of a magnificent Wotan but he is unfortunately caught here with unsteady intonation and a less than full command of the long phrase.

It would be unfair to pursue any comparisons with Theo Adam's performance in a classic live recording of the complete opera under Böhm, now happily made available on CD (and what a relief it is simply to be able to hear a whole act at a go). Dating from 1967, the set has a cast to throw anyone into paroxysms of nostalgia: Birgit Nilsson as Brünnhilde, Leonie Rysanek as Sieglinde, and perhaps now seeming rarest of all, James King as Siegmund, proving that real Wagner tenors existed only 17 years ago.

Finally, a brief but hearty welcome for one of the most curious operas since Wagner, Zemlin's version of Wilde's *The Birthday of the Infanta*. The soloists and the much revised libretto come from the Hamburg Opera's production of the opera as *Der Zwerg*, seen at Edinburgh last year. As those performances proved, it is a quite extraordinary piece, delicately bizarre and beautiful, and not easily forgotten.

Paul Griffiths

Passion that should turn brickbats into bouquets

Puccini: *Manon Lescaut* Front/Donnington Philharmonia/Sinopoli, DG 413 888-10H3 (3 records). Also CD and cassette. Chabrier: *L'Étoile* Allot-Lugaz/Gautier/Bacquier, Opera de Lyon Orchestre, Pathé 2700863 (2 records). Conifer Import. Chabrier: *Le Roi malgré lui* Hendricks/Garcia/Jeffes/Quilico, Nouvel Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France/Dutch Erco NLM 751623 (3 records). Conifer Import.

The starting point for DG's *Manon Lescaut*, just out, was Covent Garden's recent production of Puccini's opera. But not a great deal eventually made its way down to the recording studios in Kingsway: this was Domingo as Des Grieux, the conductor Giuseppe Sinopoli and Covent Garden Chorus and that was about the rest of the cast was imported, as was the Philharmonia Orchestra.

Certainly the contributions of Domingo and Sinopoli are outstanding. Puccini's *Des Grieux* has never given Domingo any problems and his tenor here is free-flowing, lyrical and passionate as well as sounding marvellously youthful when he first spots Manon at the Amiens staging post ("Donna non vidi mai"). It rounds off a very good year for him on disc. Sinopoli and the Philharmonia are equally persuasive and in a mood to reverse that wave of critical disapproval towards Puccini's opera that threatened when Scottish Opera staged it a couple of Edinburgh Festivals ago. Sinopoli is taut, even a little feverish at times, but never raucous. The Act III intermezzo is outstanding. Sinopoli, like Domingo, can be well satisfied with his year in the opera studios.

The revelation of the set, though, is Mirella Freni in the

title role. It is a reminder that some of her earliest recital records were of Puccini arias, but it is worth recalling too that she had not sung the role on stage until shortly before this *Manon Lescaut* went into the studios. Not that anyone would guess it from this performance: girlishly flirtatious in Act I, petulantly sorry for herself in Act II and finally shattered as she feels life slipping away in Act IV ("Sola, perduta, abbandonata", taken very slowly by soprano and conductor). She and Domingo are so good that the supporting cast is overshadowed, apart from Robert Gambill's neat Edmondo. Keep the RCA *Manon* on the shelves for Björling in the first act; otherwise this is the one to have.

One of the great pleasures of the opera year has been the rediscovery of Chabrier's *L'Étoile*, seen first in Lyons and

then at the Opéra-Comique in Paris, where it returns in the middle of this month. Writing after the first Paris airing I suggested that EMI should issue the record made by their Pathé division with forces of the Lyon opera. They declined the suggestion, but here it is, thanks to the enterprise of Conifer, fresh under the baton of John Eliot Gardiner.

Colette Allot-Lugaz is the star of both the Lyons and Paris casts in the *travesti* part of the pedlar Lazuli who wins his princess. Georges Gautier makes a youthful King Ouf, that bloodthirsty monarch not too distant from G & S's Mikado, and the admirable Gabriel Bacquier is the court astrologer, who stars go consistently wrong. All in all, a delight, whether or not you can make it to Paris at the end of the year.

More Chabrier comes, by

courtesy of Conifer, in the shape of *Le Roi malgré lui*, whose libretto is even better than that of *L'Étoile* - if it is possible. Chabrier's renowned bonhomie fills the score, as does his gift for parody, especially in the "Strauss" waltzes at the start of Act II. Nor is he averse to direct quotation (Berlioz's Hungarian March in Act III) to make a wicked musical point.

This time the star is the orchestra under Charles Dutoit. The recording quality, like the singing, is only so-so. Barbara Hendricks has a little trouble with her coloratura; the usually excellent Gino Quilico is a bit subdued. A laughably overblown libretto note suggests that "from the purely musical standpoint" Chabrier's score is rather better than that of *Carmen*. Not quite so, but it is still a very enjoyable listen.

John Higgins

PICK OF THE YEAR

Choice: Mozart and Verdi on disc. His approach to this much-maligned opera is as persuasive as it is original. That same originality goes into the casting, from Plovright through Fassbender to the more obvious choice of Domingo. All are top class.

Stars of the Vienna Opera 1918-45 EMI 29 1031 (3 records). As enticing a treasure chest as EMI's earlier issue which covered the post-war years in Vienna. Accept that there are some tracks you will never want to listen to again for the sake of others which remain unsurpassed.

Claudia Muzio EMI EX 29 01633. Another example of the riches within EMI's archives. This issue covers Muzio near the end of her career in 1934-35, possibly past her best but still one of the great dramatic sopranos of the century.

Verdi: *Il trovatore* Plovright, Fassbender, Domingo, Zancanaro, Santa Cecilia Orchestra/Giulini, DG 413 355. CD and cassette. No doubts about the opera set of the year: Giulini's first *Trovatore*.

John Higgins

Nicholas Kenyon

Charpentier: *Médée* Soloists, Les arts florissants/William Christie, Harmonia Mundi HMC 1138-41. A penetrating, dramatically convincing and musically ravishing revival of Charpentier's long-neglected masterpiece.

Machaut: *The Mirror of Narcissus* Kirby, Pilpot, Covey-Crump, Gothic Voices/Christopher Page, Hyperion A6507. At a time when medieval music is being neglected by the record companies, a revelatory disc which presents Machaut's songs with utter simplicity.

Mozart: Piano Concertos Nos 9 and 11 (K271, K413) Malcolm Bilson/English Baroque Soloists/John Eliot Gardiner, DG Archiv 410 905-1. An exciting first step on the road towards re-creating the piano concerto as Mozart knew it.

Brahms: *Symphony No 1* North German Radio Orchestra/Günther Wand, Deutsche Harmonia Mundi 1C 067-99 974-1. I choose this for its rare long-sightedness, its deep assimilation of the symphony's evolution, its instinct and its purpose.

Bartók: *Complete Quartets* Takács Quartet, Hungaroton SLPD 12602-04. High intelligence and imagination shape the whole approach of the Takács Quartet. Full marks for their bright, glowing focus.

Hilary Finch

GALLERIES

Art waves goodbye to the warehouse

Anne Berthoud, who has built up a considerable reputation for her shows of artists whose paintings lie on the borderline between abstract and figurative, has turned her back on trendy Covent Garden and moved to the centre of London's modern art world in the West End.

Her new gallery opens in Clifford Street, off Bond Street, on Monday, in an airy, spacious, south-facing room she will be exhibiting a mixed show by artists whom she has represented for some years, including paintings by Robert Mason, Michael Brick and Michael Porter; pots by Magdalene Odundo and sculpture by Peter Randall-Page.

Anne Berthoud's previous gallery was in Langton Court,

Covent Garden, but she says, "It wasn't even listed in the A-Z. Although it was converted from an exotic-sounding old banana warehouse, with two floors and recessed walls that offered useful changes in perspective for viewing mixed shows (which Anne Berthoud likes on put out), it was not an ideal position for a modern art gallery. Her clients have greeted the news of the move with sighs of relief, telling her 'At last we'll be able to find you'."

When she opened her gallery four years ago, hopes were high that Covent Garden would attract collectors and art lovers more used to the streets of Mayfair, but gradually the character of the area emerged as one which would simply attract

casual shoppers and tourists, with its glitter, restaurants, fire-escape on the pavements in the summer and crowds spilling out from the pubs. She is obviously delighted with her new gallery and glad to be in such a central position; a different atmosphere prevails in the surrounding streets, but "I do not intend to become stuffy", she said with a wide smile. Were the other dealers welcoming when they heard about the gallery's move to their midst?

"I've had an incredible response from other galleries", she said, "I do not believe in competing with them. This is not a competitive business. If she knows a collector is looking for something which she does not have in her gallery, she

will happily send them in the right direction.

Her commitment to her artists is evident; she talks with warmth and clarity about their work and the atmosphere in the gallery is friendly and unpretentious. "The move has been made with the artists in mind: 'You have a responsibility to your artists to show them in the best possible place', and the new setting, looking down over the heartland of London's modern-art market is ideal.

Prudence Hone

The Anne Berthoud Gallery, 10 Clifford Street, London W1 (437 1845) opens on Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm (closed Dec 22-Jan 7).

Openings

VIDEO TIMES: Kevin Atherton has a sense of humour; last year he exhibited three bronze deckchairs at the Serpentine Gallery and he has now turned his attention to the video age. His installation consists of a video, showing himself looking at a television screen, looking at you, looking at him. An accompanying booklet (a sort of combined TV and Radio Times) details each moment on screen: now he sucks a mint, now he blows his nose.

Kentley Yard, Northampton Street, Cambridge (0223 352124). Opens tomorrow, until Dec 21, Tue-Sat 12.30-5.30pm, Sun 2-5.30pm.

LET ME SHOW YOU MY ETCHINGS FATHER CHRISTMAS: Mock show of original work by members of the Royal Societies of

Painters in Water-Colours and Painter-Etchers and Engravers, which range from delicately executed wood-engravings to traditional landscapes. Banksia Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (023 7521). Opens Tues, until Dec 23, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-6pm.

Selected

AESOP'S FABLES: Portal Gallery, 16a Grafton Street, London W1 (493 0706). Until Jan 5, Mon-Fri 10am-5.45pm, Sat 11am-2pm. Mixed exhibition of gallery artists illustrating the fables; a great variety of styles, some amusing interpretations and one small, beautifully framed painting by Barry Castele which seems to capture Aesop's enduring insight into human nature.

MICHAEL LLOYD/ALISTAIR McCALLUM: Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford (0865 242781). Until Jan 3, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Two artists working in precious metals, but with very different styles: Lloyd produces chased silver bowls, McCallum uses mokumé, a technique which blends the metals together so that they swirl into patterns resembling melting ice cream.

Photography

ANNIE LEIBOVITZ: PHOTOGRAPHS WITH STYLE: Sills Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140). Until Jan 18, Tue-Sat 12.30-6pm. An art view for an exhibition of portrait photographs which seem to have little of anything other than

style. With her work for *Rolling Stone* magazine in America, Annie Leibovitz has carved a distinctive style of photography which suggests the outrageous but which deals mainly in the contrived avant-garde with the avowed intention being to shock.

HOME FRONT AND STAYING ON: Photographers' Gallery, 5 & 6 Great Newport Street, London WC1 (240 1869). Until Jan 19, Tue-Sat 11am-7pm. John Heardon and Derek Bishton spent four years photographing the ethnic minorities in Handsworth. The main body of work in "Home Front" is an honest attempt to break down various stereotypes. Sadly this show falls when seen alongside "Staying On" which is a fascinating exhibition, researched by Alex Noble, offering a broad historical perspective of immigrant communities in the British Isles.



Classical cut

Parian porcelain, named after the Greek island of Paros, was introduced to this country in the 1840s. Figures made in the white, unglazed porcelain including those of classical scenes such as the Venus and Cupid by Minton (above) were very popular between 1850 and 1880. More than 600 examples, most of them for sale, will be on show at "The Parian Phenomenon" at Chelsea Town Hall, Kings Road, London SW3 from Tues until Dec 21, 10am-7.30pm (closed Sun). Also on display will be Chervon's three dimensional pantograph (left) for reducing figures and busts, which has been especially restored for the exhibition.

DANCE

ROYAL BALLET: Covent Garden (240 1066). Today and Wed at 7.30pm. Jennifer Pantry and Derek Deane have the leads in tonight's *Mayerling*; on Wed, *Swan Lake* is led by Marguerite Porter and Jay Jolley.

LONDON CONTEMPORARY: Sadler's Wells (278 8916). Today at 7.30pm. Their London season ends tonight with Paul Taylor's *Expansions* as the centrepiece of a programme also including Robert Cohan's *No Man's Land* and Slobodan Davies's *Free Setting*.

FESTIVAL BALLET: Bristol Hippodrome (0272 299444). Today at 2.30 and 7.30pm. Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7489). Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Dec 15 at 2.30 and 7.30pm. Natalie Makarova dances Tatiana in *Olegin* (Mon, Wed), but Patricia Ruanne (Tues) is also excellent in the role. Today's programme at Bristol includes the virtuoso *Etudes* and the Duke Ellington ballet, *Night*.

Creature; Birmingham gets *The Nutcracker*, Thurs-Sat.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Southampton, Gaumont Theatre (0703 28771). Today at 2.30 and 7.30pm. The tour ends with two more performances of a mixed bill including Ashton's *The Dream* and *Facade*. The company's season at Sadler's Wells opens on Dec 18.

DANCE/MEDIA WEEK: Chisenhale Dance Space, 64 Chisenhale Road, London E3 (981 6617). Today-Mon, and Thurs-Dec 15, at 7.30pm. Celebrating the completion of a fire escape that enables it to open its doors to the public, this nest of "new dance" in Bethnal Green (just south of Victoria Park) presents different shows every night. Ring first to check details.

Dance: John Percival; Photography: Michael Young

The French Letters

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Entertainments

TELEVISION

THE WEEK

A master that might have been

Films on TV

In June 1962 a new magazine, *Moviefest*, announced its presence with a long diatribe against what it saw as the general ineptitude of the British cinema.

To underline the point, *Moviefest* produced a chart in which directors were grouped according to ability. Most of the established names were consigned to the dismissive category of "competent or ambitious" and only five made it to the ranks of the "talented", "very talented" or "brilliant".

Of these, Joseph Losey was an expatriate American and Hugo Freagon an Argentinean who had worked mostly in Hollywood. That left Robert Hamer, of *Kind Hearts* and *Coronet*, Karel Reisz, who had just made *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning*, and Seth Holt.

And who, the casual filmgoer might have asked, was Seth Holt? Not exactly a name on every lip; yet, according to *Moviefest*, he was one of the few genuinely gifted men working in the British cinema, and with Losey, his brightest hope for the future.

The magazine's high estimate of Holt was based almost entirely on one film, a psychological thriller made for Hammer called *Taste of Fear* (Channel 4, today, 11.30pm-1am). It had come out in the previous year (1961), though no one had taken much notice.

Moviefest conceded that *Taste of Fear* was "by serious standards, not very good" and described its script as "a preposterous amalgam of previous thrillers", most notably *Les Diaboliques*. So why the fuss? Because "it reveals time and time again a director who can create cinematically, where other directors are content with illustrating their scripts".

Saturday Night and Sunday Morning, said *Moviefest*, "is a good film and we cannot imagine, on its evidence, that Karel Reisz will make a much better one. *Taste of Fear* is rather a bad film and we can imagine Seth Holt making a 'masterpiece'".

Holt was a former actor who had joined Ealing studios in 1944 as an assistant editor. In that capacity he worked on celebrated pictures like *Dead of Night*, *Passport to Pimlico* and *Kind Hearts and Coronets*. Promoted to editor his credits included *The Lavender Hill Mob* and *Mandy*; he also, by the way, edited *Saturday Night and*



Taste of Fear: Susan Strasberg (left) and Ann Todd in Seth Holt's film

Sunday Morning. His directing debut came in 1955 with *Nowhere to Go*, a crime story he wrote with Kenneth Tynan. *Taste of Fear* was his second film, starring Susan Strasberg as a crippled heiress who becomes haunted by the corpse of her long-lost father.

Sadly, Holt did not produce the masterpiece that *Moviefest* had hoped for as the cineaste wooed by a simple cowboy (BBC2, Mon 8.30pm).

Fourteen Hours (1951): Richard Basehart as the man threatening to throw himself off a tall building in a durable suspense thriller directed by Henry Hathaway (Channel 4, today, 3.20-5.05pm).

Bus Stop (1956): Marilyn Monroe in top form as the cafe singer wooed by a simple cowboy (BBC2, Mon 8.30pm).

Moonlighting (1982): Jerzy Skolimowski's perceptive study of four Polish building workers doing up a house in London while awaiting news from home (Channel 4, Thurs, 9.30-11.20pm).

Also recommended: The Overlanders (1946): Harry Watt's stirring account of a wartime cattle drive across Australia (BBC2, today, 3.10-4.00pm).

Fourteen Hours (1951): Richard Basehart as the man threatening to throw himself off a tall building in a durable suspense thriller directed by Henry Hathaway (Channel 4, today, 3.20-5.05pm).

Bus Stop (1956): Marilyn Monroe in top form as the cafe singer wooed by a simple cowboy (BBC2, Mon 8.30pm).

Moonlighting (1982): Jerzy Skolimowski's perceptive study of four Polish building workers doing up a house in London while awaiting news from home (Channel 4, Thurs, 9.30-11.20pm).

Peter Waymark

Programme choice

disappeared 40 years ago during a flight from Britain to Paris. Presented by a former guest vocalist with the Miller band, Anne Shelton, the programme comes from a United States Air Force base in Suffolk and features rich helpings of Miller style music with three of his wartime soloists. BBC1, tomorrow, 9.30-10.10pm. A second tribute, *Glenn Miller: A Moonlight Serenade*, introduced by Van Johnson, is on Channel 4, Thurs, 5.30-7pm.

HILARY: Singer/comedian Mark Cane makes her debut in situation comedy as the researcher for a television chat show, divorced and with a grown up son who aspires to be a musician. In this first episode (the full series starts in the New Year) she is sent to persuade a famous American stuntman to appear on the

programme, only to discover that he never gives interviews. BBC2, Mon, 9.30pm.

HUMAN RIGHTS: On the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations in December 1948, a look at how far its hopes have been realised. Those interviewed by producer/director Rex Bloomstein range from the former American President, Jimmy Carter, and President Mimir of the Sudan, to the victims of political and religious persecution throughout the world. All ITV regions, Tues, 9.30-11.30pm.

KIPLING: The one-man play by Brian Clark, based on Kipling's poems and stories, and performed by Alec McCowen. Clark sees Kipling as a man of paradoxes, someone who loved soldiers but hated war, a patriot who described England as his favourite foreign country and an imperialist who refused to accept a Knighthood in the Order of the British Empire. Channel 4, Wed, 9-10.30pm.

CONCERTS

SALOMON/SINFONIA
Today, 7.45pm, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (828 8795, credit cards 636 8891). Doron Salomon conducts the City of London Sinfonia in Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 3, Mozart's Symphony No 41, Handel's Water Music. Peter Aronson solos in Mozart's Piano Concerto No 20.

ELISABETH LEONSKAJA
Tomorrow, 3pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 8800). Elisabeth Leonskaja continues the South Bank Piano series with a selection of Beethoven's "Pathétique" and "Tempest" sonatas and Chopin's Four Scherzos.

RESURRECTION
Tomorrow, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 8800). Gilbert Kaplan conducts huge forces, including the London Symphony Chorus, LSO and soloists, in Mahler's "Resurrection" Symphony.

ARTHUR ROWE
Mon, 6.30pm, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London SW1 (222 8242, credit cards 222 8243). A Canadian pianist, Arthur Rowe, offers Mozart's Sonata K570, Schubert's "Wanderer" Fantasy, Liszt's Benediction and Six Aphorisms by Alfred Fisher, a Canadian composer.

SUSAN KESSLER
Mon, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (935 2141). Susan Kessler (mezzo soprano) sings a rather unusual programme, Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* for wind instruments and Dvořák's Symphony No 7 are all played by the LSO under Eduardo Mata.

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THE FIRM
Tonight/tomorrow, Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (748 4081). Paul Rodgers, the voice of Free and Bad Company, combines in a new band with Jimmy Page, late of Led Zeppelin.

SPANDAU BALLET
Tonight/tomorrow, Wembley Arena, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex (902 1234). The barbed solo-boy look certainly suits them better than the excesses of New Romanticism.

UB40
Tonight, Queen's Hall, Leeds (0532 431 961); Mon/Tues, Royal Court Theatre (051 709 4821); Wed/Thurs, Birmingham Odeon (021 643 6101). White reggae merchants, at their best recasting such classics as "Many Rivers to Cross" and "Red Red Wine".

PAUL YOUNG
Tonight, Bournemouth Centre (0202 287297); tomorrow/Thurs, Brighton Centre (0273 202881).

JAZZ TETE-A-TETE
Jazz, New End Theatre, 27 New End, London NW3 (435 6054). Peter Burman revives his series of late-night jazz recitals (11pm to 1.30am) with Duncan Lamont's 20-piece big band.

CONCERTS: Max Harrison: Opera: Hilary Fitch: Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams

ROCK & JAZZ

Tues/Wed, Wembley Arena (902 1234). The poise of his records is missing on stage, but his musicians are terrific.

AL GREY/BUDDY TATE
Tonight and Wed to Sat, Pizzeria Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (439 8722). This cunning trombone/tenor team - both former Beatles - play the kind of mainstream jazz that makes everything else sound like junk food.

BILLY MACKENZIE
Tomorrow, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth Street, London W1 (439 0747). The Associates' singer steps out as a solo performer.

BIG COUNTRY
Mon, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 2016); Tues, Brighton Centre (0273 202881); Fri, Wembley Arena (902 1234). Scotland's answer to Ireland's U2, treading a path between the emotional promiscuity of heavy metal rock and the sterile技巧 of electro-pop.

CULTURE CLUB
Tues/Wed, NEC, Birmingham (021 780 2016). Over-exposed and fading.

WHAM!
Tues, Whitley Bay Ice Rink (0632 530125); Fri, Queen's Hall, Leeds (0532 431 961). No group of musicians says more about the state of Young Britain than George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley, mixing cocktails and topping up the tan while the Empire burns.

PAUL BRADY
Thurs to Mon, Half Moon, 93 Lower Richmond Road, London SW15 (788 2387). Five nights in this atmospheric Putney pub room for the fiery Irish singer-songwriter and his excellent band. Highly recommended.

JAZZ TETE-A-TETE
Jazz, New End Theatre, 27 New End, London NW3 (435 6054). Peter Burman revives his series of late-night jazz recitals (11pm to 1.30am) with Duncan Lamont's 20-piece big band.

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THE TIMES

CHRISTMAS DEADLINES

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THE ARTS

Radio
Other worlds

How the idea of reincarnation does run - and no wonder for how attractive it is as a way of explaining a variety of puzzles: it gives meaning, even a sort of dubious dignity, to the manifest inequality of life on earth - you are as you are because of last time round and what you did or didn't do with it; it offers explanations for the curious glances and transpositions of time that come to a few of us; along with ideas such as heaven and hell, it is one of the devices for keeping the show on the road. So Patrice Chaplain, author of *The Other Lake* (Radio 3, Dec 3; director, Cherry Cookson) established an easy claim on her listeners' interest by making this magnetic idea the subject of her play. But of course she also put an immense hurdle in her own path, for such a sort of vacant rubbish has been written about reincarnation that any writer who turns to it yet it again risks evoking all the laughable associations of that tedious pile.

I am very glad to say that *The Other Lake* almost never brought such things to mind. It was the tale of an imperious, pettish, self-obsessed bitch of an opera star (Sian Phillips - a marvellous) whose lawyer-cum-lover gives her a most beautiful Tang vase. Her only thought is to have her long-suffering secretary-factotum, Jane (Janet Maw), value for a quick sale. But the vase acts on Jane most strangely and gradually, in a way that made the skin begin to prickle, it reanimates in her another time and life in China as daughter-in-law of the malevolent Empress Wu who had condemned her to death for some trifling offence. Her flight from execution brought her to the potter's house where she learnt his trade and came briefly upon the love of her life - a wandering merchant. The vase, it seems, was made by her.

Apart from rare moments when the parallels of one set of lives with another seemed a shade too pat, present and past faded in and out so that the one seemed to be the resonance of the other - and indeed this was explicitly the underlying theme of the play: what one does resonates in "other worlds and other times", an idea which, it seems to me, does not require us to presuppose anything as literal and romantic as reincarnation at all; one, however, that speaks with an even more compelling voice.

It was Cherry Cookson's day, December 5, for that same

afternoon Radio 4 broadcast another play she had directed. Thanking by Jehane Markham, while thematically less ambitious than *The Other Lake*, was within its smaller ambit even more successful. Three women, no longer quite young, meet as they do every now and then for dinner in the flat of one of them. This one is Anna (Anna Nygh), an American aspiring literary agent. Her guests are Laura (Elizabeth Bell), aspiring painter and Jose (Petra Markham), the only one of them to have a child - Laura having miscarried. Anna aborted. But Jose's blessing is her shackle: tied, as it were by the nipple, she can only ponder on the impossibility of catching up with the rest of her life. The talk between the three is friendly but prosaic; it is what they say to themselves while that interests us, how they see each other and their past. The play's two levels were beautifully distinguished yet combined by editing thoughts over slow drifting dance music so that, by some other operation of the process of resonance, these self-searching sequences seemed to run over into the dinner-table chat and made its ordinariness quite chilling.

Could it have been too little a concern for resonance that made Telling Tales (Radio 4, Sundays) producer, Anne Brown, by the end of a disappointing Frank Delaney is a winning follow-up to the microphone, but that and a very promising relaxed start are not enough to keep three whole hours of radio afloat.

Things went downhill in the second programme (Nov 18) which wandered aimlessly around the not very significant question of when is a story a joke and when is a joke a story. They never really recovered - although there were some delightful tales and readings along the way. But what is one to think of a major series on stories which has so little to say about the extraordinary universality of certain story structures? A late 19th century collector, for example, identified 345 versions world-wide of the Cinderella theme. And what about the contention that stories offer not only an exceptionally subtle and memorable account of our thoughts and behaviour but are also maps of "other worlds and other times" as well as unique teaching instruments? Did Mr Delaney and his researchers never find this out?

David Wade

Theatre in New York
Anarchy on Broadway

Piquant parts, but only one artistic whole have characterized recent New York theatre. The most hyped show since *Jesus Christ Superstar* - Joseph Papp's Public Theater production of *La Bohème* starring Linda Ronstadt - is neither as heady as operatic purists, nor as good as Ronstadt enthusiasts hoped.

As anticipated and, indeed, proclaimed in endless feature articles, Miss Ronstadt does not have the middle voice to sustain Mimi. Though occasional high notes are piercingly lovely, her diction is often unintelligible and her singing and acting are so tentative that one can only give her points for courage in her determination to grow as an artist. The popular country-music singer Gary Morris fares better as Rodolfo, being stronger in voice and personality.

Each star alternates performances with other singers. Among these, Patti Cohenour, proving a heart-breaking Mimi with a crystalline soprano and radiant spirit. Making his New York debut as Marcel, Howard McGillin is a handsome charmer with a baritone to match.

The real surprise of Wilford Leach's production is its conservatism. Is this the director who revitalized *The Pirates of Penzance* and made fresh approaches to many a classic? His *Bohème* is so faithful to the musical score (within the confines of 12 players and discreet amplification) and so straightforward in design and staging that it might be an earnest university production.

Two Broadway shows were slowly down to death. A tired updating and shoddy production of Rudolf Friml's musical version of *The Three Musketeers* deserved such a fate, but *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* was too harshly executed.

Richard Nelson's adaptation of Dario Fo's play was judged a failure by many critics. They found particular fault with the American references introduced, but I thought that any adaptation which included the line "We are a people rich in resources, and our richest resource is our rich people" had its faults.

David Wade

A style which made full use of their talents, and the production was often even more haphazard than the play. At least *Anarchist* succeeded not only in getting a Dario Fo play on Broadway but Fo himself - denied a visa twice before by the US State Department - into the country to observe rehearsals.

David Storey is a familiar figure here, and the Manhattan Theater Club chose his early work in *Celebration* to open a new theatre at the midtown City Center. While hardly a washout with actors like Malcolm McDowell, Frank Grimes and John C. Vennema as the sons, Pauline, Francine and their mother and Margaret Hilton as the chirpy nosy neighbour, Lindsay Anderson's production splinters the fragile drama. The actors play the end from the beginning. One knows their precise emotional states immediately, and watching the predictable become tedious even with such appealing performers.

The long-winded, disjointed virus infects Michael Weller's *The Ballad of Soapy Smith* (Public Theater) and Peter Parnell's *Romance Language* (Playwrights Horizons), but both are so admirably ambitious and frequently imaginative and inclusive that their ailments are not fatal. *Soapy Smith* is a tale about a con-man during the 1890s Alaska Gold Rush. With lines such as "Capitalism is the best hustle in town" and an engaging performance of Soapy by Denis Arndt, the play succeeds in illustrating how confused good and bad intentions and results can become to individuals and communities at any time, anywhere.

To capture the essence of *Romance Language*, imagine a full-length variation on the opening scene of Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls*. Peter Parnell's characters and events include Walt Whitman helping huckleberry Finn search for Tom Sawyer, Louisa May Alcott pursuing a futile love for Henry David Thoreau and eventually having a torrid affair with General Custer, and the breeches-role actress Charlotte Cushman seducing Emily Dickinson. They all embark on Journeys across the United States, and shortly after Custer's Last Stand and commenting along the way on American culture with a bite



Jonathan Pryce's inventive and dynamic Fool in *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*

like a little devil with a sweet tooth.

The devils in *The Garden of Earthly Delights* (Music Theatre Group/Lenox Arts Center at St Clements) are malevolent creatures, but this music-theatre-dance work featuring 10 dancer-musicians is entirely uplifting. Conceived and directed by Martha Clark (who also dances), with an Obie-winning score by Richard Peaslee, the piece is based upon Hieronymus Bosch's fifteenth-century painting and encompasses four sections: Eden,

the Garden, the Seven Sins and Hell. From the moment Eve swings her hair to fall upon Adam like velvet, to that when the first of numerous flying performers as two angels glide in to twining sounds, to such eerie sequences as a man driving a cello through a woman and plucking a haunting melody over her corpse, the one-hour work is full of such surprises and delights that it feels all too short yet artistically perfect unto itself.

Holly Hill

● The Almeida Theatre's production of *Melancholy Jacques*, premiered at this year's Edinburgh Festival, is to play at the Bush Theatre from Tuesday until December 29. This portrait of the philosopher, poet and composer, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, starring Simon Callow, is based on two of

Rousseau's works, *Reveries of a Solitary Walker* and *Letter to d'Alembert*.

● The Royal Shakespeare Company is to present J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan* at the Barbican Theatre for a third successive, and final, Christmas season, from December 15 to January 19.

Television
Well rehearsed

Arena (BBC 2) presented the British premiere of Ingmar Bergman's *After The Rehearsal*, a film set in "the twilight hour" after rehearsals in the theatre. For those who know Bergman for his more florid and emblematic films, which have become a byword for Swedish seriousness, this new chaste and relaxed style may come as something of a shock. But it has its own pleasures, even if they are sometimes slow in coming.

This was, after all, a film in which three people talked while around them lurked the silence of the stage, echoing with the life which had just left it. But it was a film about actors and acting, it also became a mystery story on the theme of time and memory.

These are difficult subjects, perhaps, but film is by far the best medium for combining the different layers of narrative involved - Bergman uses such techniques as "flash-back" or "voice-over" to create three or four points of consciousness at once. And such an intimate and concentrated experience works

better on television than it would on the large screen, the length (at just over an hour) is also important here, since this was the equivalent of a short story rather than a novel.

It was definitely an advantage, in a film which is in part concerned with the nature of acting, that the performances were so good - particularly that of Erland Josephson as the elderly director, not a million miles away (it seems) from Bergman himself. And the writing, so far as one could tell from the sub-titles, was excellent even when it veered towards roundly rather than profoundly. "Everything represents, nothing is."

There were moments of boredom, and the sustained concentration on one single mood might have seemed tedious to those who think of television as a variety act, but Bergman's direction was noticeable for its fluency as well as its restraint. It was imaginative of Arena to let it stand unadorned.

Peter Ackroyd

Opera

The Makropulos Case
Coliseum

Without doubt one of the most important developments in opera in Britain this decade, if not half-century, has been the habilitation of Janáček. And never before has London had such an opportunity to feel the full force of David Pountney's directorial appropriation of the pioneering work of Sir Charles Mackerras. His productions of Janáček's two last operas are, wonderfully, being staged on consecutive evenings this week.

Last night, his *House of the Dead* played the Dominion, and on Thursday night, the first revival of his *Makropulos Case* for English National Opera opened an all too short run of four performances at the Coliseum.

In this opera, and in this production, it is the heart of the Janáček Case itself which beats loud and clear. Janáček, writing "as if I were soon to settle my account with life", celebrates the glory of his allotted span by revealing the agony and futility of its attenuation in the figure of the 339-year-old Emilia Marty. Richard Armstrong in the pit (partnering Pountney again as

in the original Welsh National Janáček cycle) celebrates with equal voracity the propulsive network of dramatic-motivic energy which is Janáček's score. The intensity of integration of word and note, of idea, response and realization - that one thrills to in this production is focused once again, and more strikingly than ever, in Joseph Barston's Emilia Marty. All her long journeying through the transformations of time, people, and emotional awareness is now fully assimilated vocally, and projected in a remarkable elision of mood and response.

With a new young Gregor in Graham Clark, his tenor cut with hysteria, both ice and fire burn together with a new Janáček in Bonaventura Bottone, and with Stuart Kvale repeating his poor, crazed Hank, humour sets up a new friction with pain. Donald Maxwell brings menacing weight as well as caddishness to the part of Baron Prus. And in the desiccated, light-striped darkness of Maria Björnson's set, figures like Edward Byles's Vitek, Eric Shilling's Kolenaty and Patricia O'Neill's Kristina return to stir the shadows.

Hilary Finch

Court of Appeal

Duty of care in tort for economic loss

Leigh and Sullivan Ltd v Alakmon Shipping Co Ltd
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Oliver and Lord Justice Robert Goff
[Judgment delivered December 7]

The Court of Appeal considered the duty of care in tort for economic loss in reserved judgments when allowing an appeal by defendant shipowners, Alakmon Shipping Co Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice Staughton on July 30, 1982 (1983) 1 Lloyd's Rep 303 for the plaintiff buyers, Leigh and Sullivan Ltd, for £83,006 and interest.

The court declined to give leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr Jonathan Staughton for the defendants; Mr Anthony Clarke, QC and Mr Nigel Teare for the plaintiffs.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the issue on the appeal was whether it was the buyers or sellers of a quantity of steel in coils who were entitled to sue the shipowners for damage to those goods when en voyage from Korea to Immingham.

The contract of sale was for steel coils to be shipped in Korea and I free out, Immingham. The price was payable by bill of lading. The bill of lading was to be endorsed by the buyers' bank in exchange for a bill of lading.

The steel was purchased by the sellers from a steel company who shipped it taking a bill of lading showing the buyers as named consignees and the sellers as the notified party. The shipowners delivered the bill of lading to the sellers and the vessel sailed.

The contract was not performed as contemplated. Steel prices fell and the buyers were unable to effect a resale before the time when the bill of lading would be tendered and they would have to produce the bill of exchange backed by their bank for the price.

In consequence the bank declined to back the bill. The buyers, a substantial and respectable concern, were greatly embarrassed in the situation. The sellers were equally substantial and respectable and the two parties got together to resolve the problem.

This Lordship set out Mr Justice Staughton's account (1983) 1 Lloyd's Rep 303, 305-207 of what happened at a meeting of representatives of the parties on October 7, 1976 and his reasons for deciding (p307) "the issue of title to sue in this case in favour of the buyers".

His Lordship reached a different conclusion from the judge who must have overlooked the effect of section 9(1) of the Sale of Goods Act 1979 which precisely fitted the facts of the case. Section 1 of the Bills of Lading Act 1853 did not operate to transfer to the buyers any rights of suit under the bill of lading contract.

It was necessary to consider whether the buyers could rely upon an implied contract between them and the shipowners on the terms of the bill of lading as was done in *Brandt v Liverpool Steam Navigation Co Ltd* (1924) 1 KB 575.

The crucial distinction between brandt and the present case was that

in the letter with which the bill of lading was sent to the ship's agents, the buyers said that the materials were to be placed into warehouse to the sole order of the sellers. The only contract which could be implied was one between the sellers and the shipowners. That was of no assistance to the buyers.

That disposed of all contracted claims by the buyers against the shipowners. But it still left a claim in tort which was very much in issue.

If there was any tortious breach of duty by the shipowners it took place while the steel was in their custody. At that time the buyers were neither the owners of the steel, nor had they any right of possession, other than as persons who held the bill of lading on behalf of the sellers. The buyers had agreed to buy it on c and t terms, the sellers having reserved a right of disposal pending payment of the price. Under such a contract the seller's duty was to ship goods conforming to the contract and to secure a contract of affreightment in customary terms.

As no disclaimer claim was put forward in *Margarine Union GmbH v Cambay Prince Steamship Co Ltd* (The *Wear Breeze*) (1969) 1 QB 219, 252 where Mr Justice Roskill in a classic judgment reviewed the authorities and held that, as the law then stood, shipowners owed no duty of care in the carriage of goods to persons other than one who owned the goods or held an immediate right to possession of them.

It was now said, and been held in *The Irene's Success* (1981) 2 Lloyd's Rep 639 and *The New Tyne* (1981) 1 Lloyd's Rep 609, that the law had been changed by the decision of the House of Lords in *Atins v Meriton London Borough Council* (1978) AC 728.

His Lordship applied the two-stage test formulated in *Atins* to Lord Wilberforce at pp 751-752: (1) As between the buyers and the shipowners there was a sufficient relationship of proximity or neighbourhood such that, in the reasonable contemplation of the shipowners, carelessness on their part would be likely to cause damage to the buyers?

The answer must be "Yes". Prima facie the shipowners did owe the buyers a duty of care.

(2) Were there any considerations which ought to negative, or reduce, or limit the scope of the duty or the class of persons to whom it was owed?

The relationships between buyer and seller and between cargo-owner and shipowner were quite distinct. In each case a judge-potential was established on economic balance, but there was no reason why it should be the same balance.

In the instant case the buyers claimed the right to impose upon the shipowners a higher duty of care than the shipowners owed to the seller under the bill of lading contract or, as the case might be, the charter, and to do so, without the shipowners' leave or licence, by means of a contract with the sellers.

His Lordship did not see how any duty of care owed in tort to the buyer could be equated to the contractual duty of care owed to the shipowner. He would allow the appeal and hold that the plaintiff had no

right to sue the defendant shipowners.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that he agreed that the buyers' claim against the shipowners based on contract failed.

As to the claim, in tort, although the court was agreed as to the result of the claim he reached that conclusion by a rather different route from that taken by the Master of the Rolls and was unable to find the same view as Lord Justice Robert Goff with regard to the possibility of an action in tort against a shipowner for damage to goods carried by him by one who was not at the material time the owner or entitled to possession of the goods.

The development of the law of tort of negligence over the past twenty years had been such that the question was a difficult one to extract any clear guidance from authority.

The starting point seemed to be the decision of the House of Lords in *Singapore v Thomson* (1987) 3 App. Cas. 279, an authoritative exposition of the policy of the law then as to the limits of recoverability of damages for unintentionally caused loss see the dissenting judgment of Lord Roskill in *Greystroke Castle* (1947) AC 365, 305.

His Lordship respectfully questioned whether it was necessarily the right approach to every alleged case of tortious liability in negligence to assume first that a duty of care necessarily arose towards every person who could foreseeably suffer loss and then to qualify that assumed duty only if some "policy" considerations of public or social justification could be found to justify its qualification.

It seemed a misreading of Lord Wilberforce's formulation in *Atins* to treat it as laying down a general principle that in all cases a duty of care was the necessary consequence of the fact of foreseeability of damage and that once it was found the court had to give effect to the concomitant duty unless it could discern some policy consideration which appeared to afford a valid ground for restricting it.

Limitation provisions in arbitration contract

Ishtirigi v Ticeret AS v Uzumoglu

Whether a party could rely on a limitation provision in a contractual arbitration clause depended upon the application of that provision, properly construed in the context of the contract as a whole, having regard to the nature and circumstances of the alleged breach and taking into consideration the significance of the breach in the context of the contract as a whole.

Mr Justice Webster so held in the Commercial Court in the Queen's Bench Division on December 4, refusing to grant the plaintiffs (1) a declaration that their claim against the defendant for misdelivery of cargo was not barred under the Commercial Arbitration clause,

After reviewing the authorities, his Lordship concluded that *The Wear Breeze* still expressed the policy of the law by reference to which the existence of a duty of care in negligence was to be judged in those circumstances. It followed that *The Irene's Success* was not decided on that point.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF agreed that the buyers' claim against the shipowners in contract failed.

The most important question on the appeal was whether the buyers were entitled to recover damages from the shipowners in tort for the damage to the goods caused by bad stowage.

The conclusion of Mr Justice Roskill in *The Wear Breeze* was founded primarily on authority. One saw in the development of the cases - *Doughuey v Stevenson* (1907) AC 363 - his Lordship's starting point of recovery for economic loss, but of recovery in specific circumstances.

The effect of the authorities was (1) there was a general duty to examine cases of economic loss in order to ascertain whether there should be liability in negligence.

(2) There had been a reaffirmation of the widely accepted view that there could not be a general right of recovery for economic loss on the simple basis of proximity as in the case of damage to persons or property.

(3) There had been a gradual recognition of a right of recovery in purely economic loss in certain specific cases.

In his Lordship's judgment *The Wear Breeze* should now be regarded as wrongly decided and overruled.

On the evidence however in the present case, no person for whose acts or omissions the shipowners were responsible had been guilty of negligence.

The negligent acts which caused the damage to the goods had been those of the stevedores employed by the charterers. It followed that there had been breach by the shipowners of their duty of care to the buyers.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willant; Anthony King & Co. Billerica.

His Lordship said that the approach which he adopted was in accordance with that of the House of Lords in *Suisse Atlantique Société d'Armement Maritime SA v NV Rotterdamsche Kanaalvaart Maatschappij* (1967) AC 361. The dictum of Lord Denning in *See Hai Tong Bank Ltd v Rambler Cycle Co Ltd* (1959) AC 576, 587 related to circumstances where a shipowner had deliberately disregarded his obligations, and was not applicable to this case.

Regina v Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Ex parte Smedley Before Mr Justice Woolf [Judgment delivered December 7]

An undertaking made by representatives of the governments of the member states of the European Community to make payments to the Community in order to finance a supplementary and amending budget was a treaty ancillary to a Community treaty within section 1(2) of the European Communities Act 1972.

It was not a treaty ancillary to a Community treaty within section 1(3) by putting a draft Order in Council which referred to the undertaking as a Community treaty before Parliament for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.

Mr Justice Woolf so held in the Queen's Bench Division and in consequence an application by Mr William Oliver Smedley for judicial review of a determination that the undertakings could properly be regarded as a Community treaty.

Mr Leslie Price, QC for Mr John Smedley, QC and Mr T. M. Ash for the applicant; Mr John Laws for the Economic Secretary to the Treasury.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that the reason for the application was that the revenue expenditure of the Community on October 2 and 3, 1984 in Luxembourg had entered into an undertaking to pay in 1984 amounts in the form of reimbursable advances to finance a draft supplementary and amending budget.

The sum set out against the United Kingdom was equivalent in sterling to a sum in excess of £120 million. Arising from that undertaking the Treasury proposed to pay the amount without obtaining the authority of an Act of Parliament.

His Lordship considered section 1 of the European Communities Act 1972, which dealt with three classes of treaties. The first class comprised pre-accession treaties. The second contained two classes of post-accession treaties, that is, treaties entered into with or without a member and therefore with or without the United Kingdom and treaties entered into as a treaty ancillary to any treaty by the United Kingdom. With regard to any post-accession treaty entered into by the United Kingdom, it was required that it should be specified in an Order in Council and furthermore it should not be regarded as a Community treaty unless so specified and the draft Order in Council had been approved by each House of Parliament.

It was contended on behalf of the applicant that there was no power to adopt that procedure for authorizing payment of the sum and that payment without the authority of an Act of Parliament would be unlawful.

The draft Order in Council was placed before Parliament on or about November 19 but so far the draft had not been considered by either House and had not yet been approved by an affirmative resolution of each House of Parliament.

His Lordship considered section 1 of the European Communities Act 1972, which dealt with three classes of treaties. The first class comprised pre-accession treaties. The second contained two classes of post-accession treaties, that is, treaties entered into with or without a member and therefore with or without the United Kingdom and treaties entered into as a treaty ancillary to any treaty by the United Kingdom. With regard to any post-accession treaty entered into by the United Kingdom, it was required that it should be specified in an Order in Council and furthermore it should not be regarded as a Community treaty unless so specified and the draft Order in Council had been approved by each House of Parliament.

The question whether a matter contained in a treaty was ancillary to any of the treaties of the Community was not a matter to be decided by the courts as a matter of law unless it was a situation where what was alleged to be ancillary to any of the treaties was incapable of being categorized as a treaty ancillary to any of the treaties.

Once a draft Order in Council was approved by resolution of each House and made an Order in Council, the fact that it defined a treaty as being ancillary meant that by section 1(3) it should be so regarded.

The courts were not excluded

If the undertaking was properly described as a treaty ancillary to any of the treaties, then on the draft being affirmed by each House, it would be proper for the Treasury to make payment.

The draft Order in Council made it clear that it was being laid pursuant to the provisions of section 1(3) and that the treaty was to be regarded as a Community treaty under section 1(2).

There was no useful authority on the meaning of "ancillary". It was a word in common usage and its meaning was clear. It was not helpful to define exhaustively what was and what was not ancillary.

What could or could not be described as ancillary was largely a question of fact. Something was ancillary if it was subordinate or incidental to something else. It obviously had to have connection to the subject matter of that to which it was regarded as ancillary.

The EEC Accession Treaty (Cmd 5179-1) dealt with financial provisions and by article 199 provided that all items of revenue and expenditure of the Community should be included in estimates to be drawn up for each financial year and should be shown in the budget, and that the revenue expenditure shown in the budget should be in balance.

The ordinary expenditure of the Community was now derived from the Community's own resources. The way that the financial provisions operated was that certain moneys raised, for example, by value-added tax, was collected by the member states on behalf of the Community.

In respect of 1984 a supplementary budget was submitted by the Community which went before the Council and in consequence the member states entered into the undertaking which resulted in the application.

It was apparent that in the situation where the expenditure of the Community was properly forecast by the budget of a particular year, there was no need to resort to an undertaking, which his Lordship regarded as an agreement, of the sort entered into this year.

If the situation arose so that the expenditure of the Community was not in balance as required by article 199 some method of financing expenditure was required.

The undertaking was reciting the agreement of the member states party to it to deal with a limited and specified situation by making limited and specified payments for the purpose of achieving a requirement which was fundamental to the European Treaty.

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The courts were not excluded

Queen's Bench Division

EEC budget deal is an ancillary treaty

from considering whether an instrument was capable of being a treaty ancillary to any of the treaties. If a draft Order in Council had been approved by both Houses then the undertaking could properly be implemented by the Treasury by making the payment specified in the undertaking. The undertaking would then be a Community treaty and contain an obligation which the United Kingdom Government could properly meet.

It was quite clear that notwithstanding the fact that the proposed draft of the draft Order in Council had been given and an order had been made, the court could still in appropriate circumstances grant relief.

In the present case, Parliament had not yet considered the draft of the proposed Order in Council, although it had been laid before Parliament.

If the case was one of those rare cases where it was appropriate for the court to intervene, that is, a case where it was inappropriate to categorize the instrument as a matter of law as a treaty ancillary to any of the treaties, it was difficult to see the disadvantages in a court indicating that was the situation at the first possible opportunity.

It was undesirable for a court to pronounce upon the question when a draft Order was before the Houses and had not been considered. His Lordship did not regard the situation as being one where a draft Order in Council procedure should not be used for seeking

authority to make the payment referred to in the undertaking. In future, on an application for leave to apply for judicial review, it would be preferable if the application was at least adjourned in order for Parliament to decide whether or not to make affirmative resolutions.

That was because Parliament might take the view that it was not going to affirm the draft by resolution. If so, an application to the court was unnecessary.

Whether a treaty was ancillary, which was largely a matter of fact, was more appropriate for Parliament to adjudicate on.

There remained the question of *locus standi*. If the proposed draft of the draft Order in Council was one where the court could be required to consider whether an instrument could be categorized as a treaty ancillary to one of the Community treaties, then his Lordship would be

THE TIMES Portfolio

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No.	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	Electricals	100	0	10	10
2	Schaeffler	100	0	10	10
3	Telecom	100	0	10	10
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5	Delors	100	0	10	10
6	Enron	100	0	10	10
7	Int'l Oil & Gas	100	0	10	10
8	Cable & Wireless	100	0	10	10
9	Outboard	100	0	10	10
10	Sound Diffusion	100	0	10	10
11	INDUSTRIALS A-D	100	0	10	10
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19	DPCE	100	0	10	10
20	Avon Rubber	100	0	10	10
21	INDUSTRIALS E-K	100	0	10	10
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24	Johnson Matthey	100	0	10	10
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28	Grampian	100	0	10	10
29	Fosco-Minep	100	0	10	10
30	Hepworth Ceramic	100	0	10	10
31	IMI	100	0	10	10
32	BFB Industries	100	0	10	10
33	Finlay (John)	100	0	10	10
34	Isbick Johnson	100	0	10	10
35	Blue Circle	100	0	10	10
36	UBA	100	0	10	10
37	Rugby Cement	100	0	10	10
38	Barrat Bros	100	0	10	10
39	Marshall (Hellas)	100	0	10	10
40	Turrill	100	0	10	10

WEEKLY DIVIDEND
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

World oil prices may be heading for a free fall

The debate in the oil industry between analysts and traders is so finely balanced that any prediction about the price of oil is inevitably hedged with reservations. But Sir Peter Baxendale, chairman of Shell Transport and Trading, is as sure as he can reasonably be that if the price does start falling significantly in the critical second quarter of 1985, it would not easily or quickly stabilize at a lower level. He foresees "a free fall", unlike some Americans who think in terms of a levelling-off at \$25 a barrel. His prediction rests essentially on the very low cost of producing Middle East oil in relation to price.

The next question would be whether the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) would succeed "in getting their act together". An attempt would be made to make deep cuts in production quotas in order not only to arrest falling prices but stabilize them at a higher level. The political implications of a big drop in oil prices, not least in this country where many of the Government's hopes rest on North Sea oil revenues, are not easy to exaggerate.

Meanwhile, the market situation is fluid. The Opec production cuts agreed in October had certainly taken effect in November, when production was below demand. The stock position is much less clear: the analysts argue that there is not too much fat in the tanks; the traders are not saying anything.

Statol, the Norwegian state oil company, yesterday put off fixing its December crude oil price, blaming "the current uncertainty surrounding oil prices", and at the same time promising its customers "a market-related price". BNO, which is now squeezed badly between an unresponsive market and the participation agreements that are the basis of its relationship with the major oil companies, has also promised a pricing formula that will take more account of the spot market, though where the bulk of oil trading is now done.

Mild weather in the northern hemisphere has not helped the price structure (though snow was reported from Pennsylvania this week). The fact that prices in the spot market have remained below official prices reflects both an uncertainty on the part of buyers and a determination among Opec countries actually to sell the lower quota of oil each has agreed to observe.

The concerns of Opec, which meets again on December 19, do not end there. In Sir Peter's opinion the problems of agreeing satisfactory price differentials for different grades of oil are even more difficult to resolve than market prices. Light crudes are overpriced in relation to heavy crudes by perhaps \$1.5 per barrel. With producers' dependence on different grades varying, the prospect of agreement among them is hardly bright.

Legal & General leads pensions challenge

The pensions industry is now engaged on two campaigns vital to its future to ensure that government proposals for portable pensions produce some sort of workable system, and to head off any thoughts in the Chancellor's mind of ending the various tax reliefs that lie at the heart of the pensions business, until now, however, the intimate connection between these two has not been properly explored.

The Legal & General group has now remedied this in the most challenging way. L & G, unlike some others, is enthusiastic about introducing some form of portable pensions. It stresses, however, that the Government will have to improve its tentative proposals if personal pensions are to become popular. Mr John Craddock, the group's pensions director said: "As it stands, the deal that would be offered to people who are not in occupational schemes is just not good enough to encourage them to take up the

option of running their own pension plan."

If employees are to be attracted into personal pensions, it is vital, according to L & G, that people should have the benefit of immediate tax deductibility for contribution, perhaps on a system similar to the Miras scheme for housebuyers.

More controversially, Mr Craddock believes that personal pensions will not be attractive unless the option to take a tax-free lump sum on retirement is maintained. L & G suggests that employees who opt for personal pensions should be able to choose their date of retirement, say between 60 and 75. This, said Mr Craddock, "means leaving them free to take their tax-free lump sums, which should be set at one third of the total investment, either in a single payment or in a series of payments whenever they choose."

This would rule out plans to tax lump sums. "But if the Government wants a success on its hands among the country's 11 million pension have-nots, it is a price they must be willing to pay."

This marks an embarrassing challenge to the stance of the pensions lobby, which appears to be offering tax on lump sums as a sacrificial offering to persuade the Chancellor not to tax pension contributions or investment returns.

Legal & General's response to Mr Norman Fowler's consultative document shows exactly why top executives at Unilever, and probably many other companies and parts of the public sector, are now queuing up to retire early in front of the Chancellor's next Budget. Lump sum tax may not matter to the pensions industry. But it matters an awful lot to individuals who have saved through the pension system and now see their only opportunity of turning that saving into capital in danger.

'Big Bang' under pressure

Pressure in the City seems to be growing to turn the Stock Exchange's "Big Bang" into two or more smaller explosions. In particular, influential voices are being raised behind closed doors in favour of the argument that the world at large should not have to wait the best part of two years before the many pending mergers are consummated.

Almost every leading stockbroker has by now arranged a deal with would-be parent from outside the stock market. These typically take the form of a sale of 29.9 per cent of the broker's equity, with a statement of intent to raise the holding to anything from 50 per cent to 100 per cent when the Stock Exchange rules permit.

The assumption has been that this change will take place, along with others such as abandoning fixed commissions on securities transactions, on Big Bang Day. But that day may not be until the autumn of 1986.

That seemed a neat and tidy approach when the transformation was originally conceived, in the latter part of last year. But practicalities have a habit of impinging. And the practical problem is that the City is now littered with tentative groupings hamstrung by the inability to progress to full mergers. Even where the putative partners are cooperating to the full, there are bound to be certain strategic decisions which cannot be taken. In many cases, the terms which the next tranche of equity changes hands will depend on short-term profit performance, possibly at the expense of long-term considerations.

In some cases this will not make a great deal of difference. But the present situation must favour those organizations - principally American and Japanese - who have refrained from buying into existing, broking firms, presumably preferring to hire individuals who will meet their requirements as and when the starting gun goes off.

Arab trade war feared by EEC

By John Lawless

The EEC yesterday was given a warning of a trade war with Arab countries if it continues to maintain barriers against imports from Saudi Arabia's new petrochemical industries.

The general secretaries of the Arab-European Chambers of Commerce, which represent companies involved in the Middle East, went into an "emergency meeting" in Paris after receiving a memorandum on the issue from Saudi Arabia.

The Chambers of Commerce said in a statement: "If such policies were to continue, Arab countries may apply reciprocal measures towards their imports from the EEC." They would look elsewhere for their purchases, it said.

EFC exports to Saudi Arabia alone are worth more than £16.5 billion a year.

Gregory can reduce bid for Glanfield

By Our City Staff

The City Takeover Panel has agreed to allow Mr Jim Gregory, chairman of Queens Park Rangers Football Club, to reduce his bid for Glanfield.

It is the second time in a month the Panel has agreed to release a company from the rule that a bid, once made, must be struck to.

Mr David Abell's Suter was allowed a similar dispensation last month when it became apparent that Francis Industries, the packaging and motor components manufacturer, would fail to meet its forecast.

The Panel is allowing Mr Gregory to reduce his bid from £3.1 million to £2.8 million or from the offered 35p a share to 49.5p a share.

The Panel said 49.5p a share was the highest price Mr Gregory had paid for shares in Glanfield before the company put out its erroneous profits forecast on October 26. It was only after this date that Mr Gregory incurred an obligation under City rules to bid at 55p.

Two months ago the Panel criticized Mr Gregory for "inadvertently and after seeking advice" breaching the takeover code.

Sharp fall in US jobless as consumer spending rises

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The rate of unemployment in the United States dropped sharply last month, suggesting a significant improvement in the economy after the third quarter slowdown. The civilian unemployment rate dropped to 7.2 per cent in November, from 7.4 per cent in September and October, and 8.4 per cent in November last year.

The fall, which resulted from a 286,000 rise in employment, mainly in retailing and other services, suggests a recovery in consumer spending. Manufacturing, which did not feature in the employment rise, remains weak.

Average weekly earnings recovered from their low October levels, again suggesting an arrival in consumer spending. US bond markets, fearful that stronger growth will force a rise in interest rates, fell on the

figures, with long bonds down by a point.

The unemployment news came as Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, called for a further relaxation of monetary policy by the Federal Reserve Board.

Mr Reagan predicted sluggish US growth in the fourth quarter. "I think it will be a shade better than the third quarter but not that much," he said.

Gross national product grew by an annualized 1.9 per cent in the third quarter, after 7.1 per cent in the second quarter. Before the presidential election, Mr Reagan predicted 4 per cent annualized growth in the fourth quarter.

Mr Reagan said that the Federal Reserve should further loosen its control on the money supply and ease down interest



Martin Feldstein: no recession next year

rates to ensure a rebound in the economy. However, most economists argue that the relaxation of policy by the Fed in the autumn has not yet fully come through and that any additional loosening would be inflationary. In London yesterday, Mr

Martin Feldstein, formerly Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, predicted a slight upturn in inflation for 1985 and a slowdown in growth, but no recession.

Mr Feldstein, a persistent critic of high US budget deficits before he quit as chairman of the council in July, noted a more realistic approach to reducing the deficit since the November 6 election.

In a White House press conference yesterday, President Reagan reaffirmed that he would not raise taxes to reduce the budget deficit. He came close to a full endorsement of the US Treasury's plan for simplifying the tax system, calling the "basically a fine proposal."

The President said that he was flexible on spending cuts, and that the spending review would include the defence budget.

Phillips & Drew 'top broker'

By Philip Robinson

Phillips & Drew yesterday emerged as the City's top overall stockbroker for the quality of its research, presentation and market knowledge. It was ranked first by finance directors of top British companies in a new survey sponsored by the Association of Corporate Treasurers and Chase Manhattan Bank.

Of the 30 brokers covered, Phillips & Drew, which has just announced a link with the Union Bank of Switzerland, scored a 50.8 per cent of the total votes.

The ACT/Chase survey was based on replies from 157 finance directors, a 29 per cent response rate on the 551 questionnaires sent out. Replies came from directors whose companies stock market capitalizations averaged £557 million.

Best Broker overall

1 Phillips & Drew	50.8%
2 Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee	41.7%
3 Hoare Govett	38.8%
4 Fowles & Pittman	33.3%
5 James Capel & Co	32.9%
6 De Zoete & Bevan	32.5%
7 Greaves, Grant & Co	32.0%
8 Warrington & Co	28.9%
9 Laing & Crickshank	27.4%
10 Fielding, Newson-Smith & Co	25.8%

A rival survey, sponsored by the Continental Illinois Bank, ranks the British brokers on the views of fund managers. The two have shown up significant differences, although eight brokers appear in both top 10 places.

Second place in both surveys is taken by Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee. Third place in ACT/Chase went to Hoare Govett, which,

under the Continental survey, was knocked out of the top 10 this year.

In grading individual analysts in their sectors, Laing & Crickshank managed two first places. Its Mr John Tyce came top in banks and financials, with Mr Fred Willings in building and construction.

Others placed first in their sector were Mr Charles Lambert of Buckmaster & Moore for chemicals, health and household products; Mr Graham Meek of Wood MacKenzie for electricals and electronics; Mr Hector Sants of Phillips & Drew on food and tobacco; Mr Peter Olsen of Kitcat & Aitken on insurance, life composite and brokers; Mr Lee Morton of Hoare Govett on mechanical engineering.

Mr Michael Unsworth of Scott Giff Layton on oils, and Mr Peter Hardy of Rowe & Pitman on property.

JMB wins Sipra ruling

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Johnson Matthey Bankers, the bullion bank rescued two months ago by the Bank of England, has obtained judgment in its favour on a £10 million writ against a Mr Mahmood Sipra, the businessman whose companies had borrowed heavily from JMB.

JMB sued Mr Sipra as guarantor of loans to his

companies. Mr Sipra did not acknowledge service of the writ and JMB won a technical default judgment against him. JMB has another writ against Mr Sipra concerning personal guarantees of £250,000.

A winding up petition against one of Mr Sipra's companies, Eurochem Maritime, is due to be heard in the High Court on Monday.

AN OFFER FROM M&G UNIT TRUSTS

Unit trusts provide the best way for most people to share in the rewards and risks of the stockmarket. They are run by full-time professionals and the risks are minimised by investing in a wide spread of shares, held by a Trustee.

Unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

M&G (who founded unit trusts in Britain) are involved in the management of funds totalling some £2,500 million. The six Funds described may have particular appeal in the present investment climate.

AMERICAN RECOVERY A speculative Fund with the sole objective of capital growth over the long term, investing in those US and Canadian shares which M&G consider undervalued in the stockmarket. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. Distributions: 20th June and 20th December (next distribution for new investors 20th June 1985).

COMPOUND GROWTH The Fund invests for capital growth in a compact portfolio of shares in companies with proven management, but a proportion may be invested in the Unlisted Securities Market (USM). Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. There are no distributions and income is automatically reinvested. Unit holders receive reports in June and December.

DIVIDEND Aims for a yield about 50% higher than that of the FT Actuaries All-Share Index. The Fund is suitable for investors needing a high and steadily increasing income with prospects of capital growth as well; indeed, the total gross dividend in the current year on an investment of £1,000 at the Fund launch (1984) is £208. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. Distributions: 15th January and 15th July (next distribution for new investors 15th July 1985).

FAR EASTERN AND GENERAL Invests for long-term capital growth in Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and other countries of the Pacific Basin. Its price performance has put this Fund among Britain's leading unit trusts on many occasions since its launch. Trustee: Lloyds Bank Plc. Distributions: 10th April and 10th October (next distribution for new investors 10th April 1985).

INTERNATIONAL GROWTH The Fund invests for capital growth through the active management of a small, international portfolio of shares. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. Distributions: 20th March and 20th September (next distribution for new investors 20th March 1985).

RECOVERY Invests for capital growth in companies which have fallen on hard times, a "speculative" policy which has proved outstandingly successful in the past. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic. Trustee: Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited. Distributions: 20th February and 20th August (next distribution for new investors 20th February 1985).

READ THIS TABLE BEFORE INVESTING	AMERICAN RECOVERY	COMPOUND GROWTH	DIVIDEND	FAR EASTERN	INTERNATIONAL GROWTH	RECOVERY
Launch date and price equivalent	July '79 50p	Dec '68 50p	May '64 50p	Sep '73 50p	Dec '67 100p	May '69 16p
Price of Income units at 5th Dec. 1984 and estimated current gross yield	194.6p x4 1.22%	301.5p** 3.35%	278.4p x4 5.80%	152.5p 1.67%	647.9p 3.35%	219.0p 3.81%
% change in Fund offer price since launch	+289.2%	+503.0%	+456.8%	+205.0%	+547.9%	+1274.4%
% change in FT All Share Index over same period	+60.29%	+233.5%	+430.1%	+147.7%	+359.4%	+281.7%

*Standard & Poor's Industrial Index. **Only Accumulation units available with Compound Growth. NB FT Actuaries All-Share Index does not include reinvested income. †The Straits Times Index. ‡Notional launch price for income units because only Accumulation units available at Fund launch.

Prices and yields appear only in the FT. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price; an annual charge of a maximum of 1% of each Fund's value - currently 14% - plus VAT is deducted from gross income (currently 94% for Dividend). All the above Funds are available with both Income and Accumulation units to exceed Compound Growth which only offers Accumulation units. Distributions for income units are made on the appropriate dates out of basic rates and are reinvested in Accumulation units to increase the value of the units. You can have your units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement 2 or 3 weeks later. Reimbursement is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. All the Funds are wider range securities and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. M&G Securities Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 8BQ. Telephone: 01-626 4588.

FROM £1,000

To M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 8BQ. TELEPHONE: 01-626 4588.

Minimum investment £1,000 in any one Fund. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY. (A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you own and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.)

02 FULL FORENAME(S)
(Surname/Initials)
SURNAME
04 ADDRESS

POST CODE MF 485014

PLEASE INVEST £ .00 IN ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable or Accumulation units will be issued) of the Fund or Funds circled below (in equal proportions unless otherwise indicated) at the price ruling on receipt of this application.

If no Fund is selected, your money will be invested in the M&G Dividend Fund. Minimum £1,000 in any one Fund.

AMERICAN RECOVERY COMPOUND GROWTH DIVIDEND FAR EASTERN INTERNATIONAL GROWTH RECOVERY

SIGNATURE DATE

SAVINGS PLAN You can build a holding in units from £20 a month with no commitment and no extra charges. Tick here.

Registered in England No. 90776. Reg. Office as above.

THE M&G GROUP

WALL STREET

[illegible]

US shares 'on rebound'

New York (AP-Dow Jones)—Wall Street stocks headed higher in early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 3.10 points at 1,173.59 at mid-morning. In the broader market, advancing issues led declines by about four to three

Mr Alfred E. Goldman, vice-president of A. G. Edwards & Sons, said the market had "developed a mild oversold condition, coming down almost steadily from the 1,220 level of a week ago. The internal dynamics of this market indicate a rebound after its fall. It should bring in some normal attempts at bottom fishing."

Mr Goldman said the quality of the rally effort on Thursday and yesterday morning "indicates a temporary bottom. It could mean a rally to perhaps as high as 1,200 but the leadership and the low volume are not indicative of a major thrust."

He said that the problem was internal. "There are still too many bulls and the institutional cash is at low levels. The correction has not yet done its work of building pessimism. We are coming close to time for a rally but this is probably not it."

British Telecom American Depositary Receipts were up $\frac{3}{4}$ to 11. Union Carbide traded at 38 $\frac{1}{2}$, down $\frac{1}{2}$, International Business Machines 119, up $\frac{1}{2}$, Phillips Petroleum 53, up $\frac{1}{2}$, Mesa Petroleum 20 $\frac{1}{4}$, up $\frac{1}{2}$, ITT Corp. 31 $\frac{1}{2}$, up $\frac{3}{4}$, LFE Corp 13 $\frac{1}{4}$, up $\frac{1}{4}$, and Unocal 39 $\frac{1}{2}$, up $\frac{1}{4}$.

1984				
High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

**Rubber in U.S. per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar
in pounds per metric ton;
Gas-oil in U.S.
per metric tonne.**

(G.W. Johnson and Co report)

RUBBER

Jan	845-61
Feb	855-62
Mar	865-63
Apr	880-64
May	890-64
Jun	895-70
Jul	710-67
Aug	720-68
Sep	730-69
Jan/Mar	660-62
Apr/Jun	693-65

COMMODITIES

2266-2273	TIN HIGH-Q
2227-2228	Cash
2268-2197	Three months
2268-2195	Turnover: 65
2198-2191	Tot: Seamy
2208-2195	LEAD
2200-2135	Cash
	Three months
	Turnover: 17
	Tot: Seamy
223.00-27.50	ZINC STAND
330.60-30.25	Cash
230.50-30.25	Three months
226.00-25.50	Turnover: 3.9
2250-21.60	Tot: Barely
233.00-21.00	
224.50-18.00	ZINC HIGH Q
228.00-15.00	Cash
	Three months

...and the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA) has been the most influential journal in the field of medicine for over a century.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
 In US \$ per oz.
 Feb. 335-331
 Mar./Oct. 102
 Ticker: Calcut.

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION:
 Average livestock prices at representative markets on December 7:
 GB: Cattle, 93.04p per kg liv (+1.32).
 GB: Sheep, 189.57p per kg est d w (+2.12).
 GB: Pigs, 85.43p per kg liv (+0.93).
 England and Wales:
 Cattle nec. up 20.8 per cent, ave. 92.29p (+1.65).

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Interbank money opened on $9\frac{1}{2}$ to $9\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, but soon fell to $9\frac{1}{4}$ to $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It was down to $9\frac{1}{4}$ to $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent by the end of the morning.

The final level was 5 per cent.

Period rates had a quiet session. Interbank term deposits were dull in the morning.

Business improved later in the area of from four to six months.

There was rarely a marginal movement in rates, though the

final stages felt firmer as the mood came tainted by a pound struggling to keep above \$1.30 and by dullness in gilts.

Turnover in sterling certificates of deposit stayed low, where paper had tended to be bought in the morning it was inclined to be offered in the later stages.

Eurodollar deposits again saw only routine activity.

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

Dollar		call	5-8
7 days	3 ¹ / ₂ -8 ¹ / ₂	1 month	9 ¹ / ₂ -10 ¹ / ₂
3 months	9 ¹ / ₂ -9 ¹ / ₂	6 months	9 ¹ / ₂ -9 ¹ / ₂
Deutschmark		call	5 ¹ / ₂ -7 ¹ / ₂
7 days	5 ¹ / ₂ -5 ¹ / ₂	1 month	5 ¹ / ₂ -6 ¹ / ₂
3 months	5 ¹ / ₂ -5 ¹ / ₂	6 months	5 ¹ / ₂ -5 ¹ / ₂
French Franc		call	11-18
7 days	10 ¹ / ₂ -10 ¹ / ₂	1 month	10 ¹ / ₂ -10 ¹ / ₂
3 months	11 ¹ / ₂ -11 ¹ / ₂	6 months	11 ¹ / ₂ -11 ¹ / ₂
Swiss Franc	2 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂		
7 days	1 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	1 month	8 ¹ / ₂ -9 ¹ / ₂
3 months	5 ¹ / ₂ -5 ¹ / ₂	6 months	8 ¹ / ₂ -8 ¹ / ₂
Yen		call	8 ¹ / ₂ -9 ¹ / ₂
7 days	8 ¹ / ₂ -8 ¹ / ₂	1 month	8 ¹ / ₂ -8 ¹ / ₂
3 months	8 ¹ / ₂ -8 ¹ / ₂	6 months	8 ¹ / ₂ -8 ¹ / ₂

GOLD

Kruggerand* (per coin):
\$337.338.60 (C200-201.50)
Sovereigns* (new):
\$77.78 (B04-65)
*Excludes VAT

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme 14
Average reference rate for interest period 3

November, 1984 to 4 December, 1984.
Inclusive: 9.904 per cent.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The foreign exchange markets were quiet, therefore the dollar was allowed to drift gradually higher against most other currencies.

Dealers reported no bank intervention, and no significant trading from the South African or Chicago markets.

Most business came from New York. The pound, trading in a narrow band against the dollar of \$1.1990 (briefly) to £1.2070, closed at £1.2030 (\$1.2065). The trade-weighted index veered from 74.6 to 74.7 all day, closing unchanged at 74.7.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Three Month Sterling					
Dec 84	90.21	90.25	90.21	90.23	370
Mar 85	90.42	90.42	0.81	90.33	197
Jun 85	90.25	90.25	90.19	90.22	43
Dec 85	90.10	90.10	Dec 85	90.05	
Previous day's total open interest	5598	NT		83.84	
Three Month Eurodollar					
Dec 84	90.63	90.67	90.60	90.65	990
Mar 85	90.63	90.10	89.89	89.92	3386
Jun 85	89.98	89.60	89.40	89.45	303
Dec 85	89.68	89.68	89.58	89.62	89
Dec 85	89.58	89.59	89.56	89.54	54
Previous day's total open interest	10364				
US Treasury Bond					
Dec 84	71.27	71.29	71.00	71.07	72
Mar 85	71.02	71.06	70.05	70.11	704
Jun 85	71.02	71.02	70.99	70.99	
Dec 85	NT	NT			
Previous day's total open interest	1801				
Long Gilt					
Dec 84	109.30	110.00	109.17	109.23	1002
Mar 85	109.09	109.10	108.30	108.43	486
Jun 85	NT	NT		108.23	
Dec 85	NT	NT		111.10	
Previous day's total open interest	3078				
FT-SE 100					
Dec 84	117.80	118.25	117.80	118.20	296
Mar 85	118.00	118.30	118.00	118.30	23
Jun 85	NT	NT		118.70	
Previous day's total open interest	826				

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase from 1.1 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase from 250 million to 450 million. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion.

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INSURANCE BONDS AND FUNDS

[illegible]

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Share recovery gives healthy end to account

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Shares ended the British Telecom account yesterday on a high note. After three lacklustre days, the market recaptured some of its old exuberance, encouraged by the Government's hopes of tax cuts and a better showing by Wall Street.

At the close, the FT 30 share index was rising comfortably at 923 points, up 14.6 points and the FT-SE share index was 14.3 points better at 1,190.1 points. Both are back near their all-time highs.

BT itself ended its first week of quoted life in good spirits. It jumped 4 1/2 p to 92 1/2 p in one day, active trading. General Electric Company, reported to be a keen buyer of BT shares as well as its own, shaded 2p to 228p.

But Government stocks missed the excitement. They recorded falls of up to 1 1/2 p in dull trading.

New-time buying was a significant influence on equities with many of the takeover favourites - old and new - recording sharp progress.

Imperial Chemical Industries and Glaxo Group moved ahead on American interest and Hanson Trust jumped 12p to 228p.

The share price of British Electric Traction has driven into new ground in recent days, gaining 15p since Thursday to 306p. City men reckon half-year results will come out at the top end of the £34 million to £36 million range against the £31.7 million in the first half of 1983-4. They are also hopeful that BET will soon sell off its 4.7 per cent stake in Initial, the cleaning group, whether or not the Monopolies and Mergers Commission gives the go-ahead for EET to buy the rest of Initial.

291p on further appreciation of its figures.

BICC and BTR were among other FT 30 constituents in fine form. But the atmosphere around BOC Group was soft with stock on offer.

Trident Television jumped 12p to 172p on talk that a bid will soon be mounted by Stakis, the Scottish leisure group.

Since it was effectively forced to give up its TV activities, Trident has derived most of its income from running four London casinos.

In March last year a bid from Pleasurama lapsed when the deal was referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Stakis has made no secret of its desire to expand in London and the South. It already runs 17 provincial casinos and has so far just one in London. Mr John Loughray, Stakis managing director, was not available for comment yesterday.

Imperial Group jumped 8p to 178p on talk of a cheerful stockbroker's circular and suggestions that the 2.7 per cent mystery shareholding, thought to be held by Hanson Trust, had been sold.

The group could also be near to clinching the sale of Howard Johnson, its troublesome American catering and hotel group. Any deal would wipe out Imps borrowings and replenish its coffers for a takeover bid on its own account.

Trusthouse Forte was 23p higher at 140 as the Kuwait Investment Office revealed a 5 per cent shareholding.

On a lively brewing pitch Base surged 17p to a high of 453p on further thoughts about its year's profits. Its strength helped other breweries higher.

Granada Group, the television rentals to bingo halls business, picked up pennies yesterday, rising 4p to 180p.

Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, put a "buy" tag on the shares after taking a look at this week's full-year profits.

The broker reckons Granada has a couple of "strong growth" years ahead of it, and deserves a better rating. Rediffusion is expected to bring significant benefits, while overseas rental business - apart from the US market - is progressing.

Johnson Group Cleaners fell 1p to 438p as Nottingham Manufacturing, which is bidding 440p a share for the dry cleaning group, continued to pick up shares in the market. By Thursday night it had 7 per cent of the shares. It's bid closes on Friday, December 19.

Checkpoint Europe, a recent US arrival, surged 38p to 223p as it revealed takeover talks were in progress. The shares have seen-sawed in the past two days on bid rumours.

Before being elevated to the USM Checkpoint, which makes electronics security tags, was traded under the special dealing facility rule. At one time the shares hit 530p.

Thermal Scientific, makers of laboratory furnaces, rose 10p to 235p as it disclosed plans to pay £4.1 million for Centor Associates, which produces high temperature electric furnaces, and £1.6 million for Betol Holdings, makers of machines for the extrusion of thermoplastic materials. The deals, which double the size of the group, are being financed by placing 1.8 million shares at 200p each and by issuing another 1 million shares to the vendors.

Mr Hugh Sykes, the TS chairman, accompanied the takeover deals with interim profits 30 per cent higher at £263,000.

The company apparently opted for a share placing

because it felt a rights issue would be "too cumbersome".

East Lancashire Paper Group, which has now agreed a bid from British Syphon Industries, has not yet thrown off the attentions of G M Firth, which has acquired a further 10,000 shares at 102p and now owns 13.53 per cent. ELPG gained 2p to 105p.

Plastic Constructors eased 2p to 45p as Amari cut its shareholding by 385,000 shares to 8.1 per cent. But Lyle Shipping jumped 3p to 254p at one time as Fado Investments disclosed a 5 per cent shareholding.

Marley, the do-it-yourself

Next week's half-year profits from H P Bulmer, the cider maker, may be even more disappointing than many are expecting. There are fears that they could be as low as £8.5 million against £9.2 million, with year's profits dipping uncomfortably below last year's £16.1 million. Tax increases and fiercer competition have hit Bulmer. The shares were unchanged at 157p.

group, came in for another speculative run. The shares gained 4 1/2 p to 95p on vague talk that the long-mooted bidder, possibly Hanson Trust, is at last about to pounce.

UBM (the old United Builders Merchants) was also firm on suggestions of a revived bid from Norcross which reports interim figures on Monday. Norcross gained 4p to 182p.

Others to gain ground ahead of figures due next week included Butterfield Harvey, up 2 1/2 p to 15p, and Phoenix Timber, 6p better at 132p.

A E, the motor and electrical components group, also continued its share price run ahead of next week's results. Market expectations are for profits close to the £19 million mark.

Law & Bonar, the Scots packaging and engineering group, has also been on stock market shopping lists lately. The share added another 12p to 242p, making a two-day gain of 18p and putting the shares firmly at a trading high.

The company has just reached its year end, and market men are looking forward to the results. But other investors are also interested in L & B's chances of receiving a bid.

Samir ran 7p ahead to 85p, still enjoying market interest in the recently announced takeover. IEP Holdings has bought 15.5 per cent of the British clothing company and certain investors are convinced that Mr Asil Nadir, chairman of Poly Peck, is involved with IEP.

TEMPUS

Candover to cut tax bill by going public

When is a share listing not a share listing? When coming to the public lists is the best way of cutting your capital gains tax bill.

Candover Investments, the management buyout and investment team spawned by the Electra and Globe investment trusts four years ago, is coming to the stock market via a placing by Candover & Co, the stockbroker. Mr Roger Brooke, the chief executive of Candover, says the main object of going public is to allow the company to apply for investment trust status for tax purposes.

Mr Brooke is confident such status will be granted, and so allow his group to cash in on some of its highly successful investments without incurring CGT.

From Candover's point of view, this move is eminently sensible. It has stakes worth £1.9 million and £1.75 million in DPCE Holdings and Stone International, respectively, close on 30 per cent of the whole of Candover's net asset value.

But, while Candover's tactics in saving its profits from the taxman in a thoroughly above-board way can only be commended, it does not look as though the average investor will be able to get close to those profits.

Candover is placing just 25 per cent of the company - the minimum allowed for a full listing, and "full" status is necessary if the company is to get the investment trust tag - at 160p a share.

The placing price puts a market value of £11.45 million on Candover, but some two-thirds of the placing goes to selected institutions - selected by Candover - and less than 500,000 will be placed with the jobbers. A few lucky private individuals, also clients of Candover, will get the rest.

According to Mr Brooke, the theory is that a suitable premium on the shares when dealings begin will bring sellers out of the woodwork. He says: "I will be surprised if there is not a brisk market in the shares".

But another theory is that the jobbers will see little business over the long term, and that Candover's shares will stay largely in the hands of that select band of institutions, just as if the stock market listing happened.

Bristol

Evening Post

The improvement in news-sheet publishing profits which Bristol Evening Post saw last year has continued in the first half of the current year with an increase of nearly 300 per cent.

The £685,000 profit from newspaper publishing was the driving force behind the increase in pretax profits from £774,000 to £1.4 million.

However, some of the edge is taken off the performance after taking into account the fact that the comparative figure for newspaper publishing in 1983 was depressed by about £180,000, the cost of switching the Bristol Evening Post and Western Daily Press to tabloid format.

The retail activities showed a healthy improvement and profits from the transport division more than doubled.

Further good news will be found in the second half when the company accounts for its £1.13 million profit on the sale of Reuters shares. The Reuters shares still held by the group are valued at £2.4 million but are in the accounts at nil value.

This is perhaps another indication of the underlying strength of the assets backing the shares. The results add 11p to the share price up to 366p, but they continue to trade in a narrow market.

Gilts

Another surge in the American money supply and a faster drop in US unemployment than expected were enough to torpedo US bonds before lunch yesterday.

The long bond fell a point, as investors digested the decline in November jobs from 7.4 per cent to 7.3 per cent of the workforce (with hints of a pick-up in retail employment) and the worrying surge for the second week running of M1.

Consumer expectations are still high, and the broader monetary aggregates have been buoyant. Does this suggest that the US economy is poised to reignite? Such apprehension is possibly premature, but Mr Jack Lavery of Merrill Lynch and Mr Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers are adopting precautionary stances.

Dr Kaufman speculates that a legitimate rebound in money supply growth may be under way.

Mr Lavery is even more doom-laden. He sees December money supply growing at nearly 9 per cent, with interest rates back-up at the start of 1985, under the pressure of a temporary rebound in the economy.

Against this background, Gilts have been unnaturally calm, shuffling aside even the prospect of poor money supply figures next week for banking November buoyant bank lending, according to the bears, may push £M3 ahead by as much as 1 1/2 per cent.

But selling the market is still not a consensus view.



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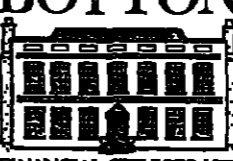
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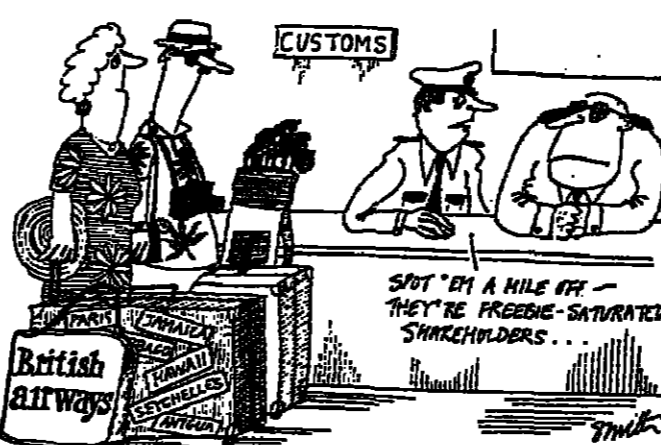
US lures Britons with cheap holidays

Last week we looked at perks available to shareholders in British companies. This week Eamonn Fingleton highlights what is available to investors in American shares.

A discount of 10 per cent on bookings at one of America's biggest budget-price hotel chains; up to 25 per cent off a cruise on a Mississippi paddle steamer; a 15 per cent discount on a weekend celebrating Thanksgiving Day.

These are some of the perks that Britons with shares in some American companies can take advantage of if they plan a holiday in the United States. US corporations are waking up to the benefits of giving shareholders something more than a dividend cheque.

Many American companies now shower new shareholders with free samples. Chesbrough's, whose brand names include Prince Matchabelli, Vaseline, Prince tennis equipment and Bass shoes, estimates its freebies are worth



about \$65 (£54) at retail prices.

Other companies supply discounts on mail-order purchases. A recent offer from the Beatrice company was a three-piece luggage set made by its Sansonite subsidiary for a discount of \$140 off the usual retail price of \$340.

Mr William Dunk, a Madison Avenue shareholder relations consultant, says a

SHAREHOLDERS' PERKS

A company immediate pay-off by making shareholders more aware of its products. "Share-

holders can be a company's most loyal customers - but they find it hard to keep track of the proliferating brand names and products of big companies."

Another reason for the sudden interest is to resist the

rising tide of "greenmail", the Wall Street technique by which corporate raiders force vulnerable companies to agree to share transactions on unfavourable terms. Anything that fosters the shareholders' loyalty is regarded as useful in buttressing existing management.

"Companies become vulnerable when their prices fall," says the treasurer of one firm which offers a popular shareholder perks scheme. "A weak share price lets a corporate raider buy an influential stake on the cheap and creates an anti-management feeling among other investors. Shareholders' perks attract small shareholders in the first place and help keep them on board when the going gets rough."

Most American companies limit benefits to investors resident in the US but some others are open to foreign shareholders.

Here are some available to British investors:
● Ramada Inns: a discount of around 10 per cent off the bill at most of the chain's 425 hotels

and a free transfer to the best room available.

● Amfac: a discount of 30 per cent for two weeks in April at an Amfac hotel located where the company is holding its annual meeting. This is either a Hawaiian resort or a mainland US city.

● Delta Queen Steamboat Company: shareholders qualify for a discount of at least 15 per cent on steamboat trips at most times of the year. A 25 per cent discount applies in the off-season - between November and February - when boats confine themselves to the lower reaches of the Mississippi.

● CSX: Weekends at the Greenbrier hotel and resort complex in West Virginia with a 15 per cent discount. And opportunities for tennis, horse riding and outdoor activities. One trip is held over Thanksgiving weekend at the end of November.

Most British stockbrokers can arrange to buy American shares. More detailed information is available if you buy through a Wall Street firm.

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Gresham Trust p.l.c.**When life insurance may not be enough**

Many of us think about the consequences of losing the family breadwinner and some will wisely take out life insurance. But consider the consequences of the breadwinner not being able to work, with no compensating life insurance.

In that situation, you need permanent health insurance (PHI) to keep the family secure. It is often stated in insurance circles that barely 7 per cent of the working population of 26 million people have permanent health insurance. And yet (another popular statistic) a young man has three times more chance of being permanently disabled before the age of 65 than he does of dying before he reaches that age.

There is nothing the insurance companies can do about that last statistic except sell more PHI. The products themselves involve various conditions dependent on age, sex, occupation, and the nature of the disability. If you consider buying such a policy, make sure you check every detail.

Disability, which, for the benefit to be paid in full must be total, is generally classified by insurers as "being unable to follow his or her normal occupation and following no other". Certain causes of disability like war or self-inflicted injury, are excluded.

Pregnancy is excluded from all policies too. There are some

INDIVIDUAL PERMANENT HEALTH INSURANCE - BEST BUYS

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	Annual premium (paid monthly)		Minimum deferred period		Cash limit	Partial disability?
	Age 25 years	Age 45 years	Male	Female	£	Yes/No
Continental Life	80.40	115.20	223.44	328.58	4	30,000pa Yes
Friends Provident	83.40	104.16	205.64	251.95	4	450pw Yes
London Life	75.28	75.28	184.97	184.97	13	40,000pa No
NEL	91.44	107.16	198.08	237.35	13	30,000pa Yes
Norwich Union	89.28	92.04	197.76	193.56	4	400pw Yes
Permanent Insurance	69.00	80.76	169.08	188.76	4	600pw Yes
Prudential Assurance	90.00	97.20	200.40	218.04	4	25,000pa No
Zurich Life	82.20	98.28	196.20	197.40	4	500pw Yes
Clerical Medical	80.60	106.08	195.56	251.40	13	40,000pa No

For a policy under the same conditions, except on a grade 4 occupation, the following rates would apply

Continental Life	111.96	145.64	255.00	380.24
Friends Provident	108.84	129.80	232.32	257.76
Norwich Union	120.24	118.04	212.00	248.04
Permanent	90.60	129.84	208.40	308.64
Prudential Mutual	108.72	133.68	219.60	256.92
Zurich Life	111.00	127.08	225.00	226.20

Source: Money Management

companies however, such as National Employers' Life (NEL), Imperial, Phoenix and Scottish Mutual, who will pay benefit if the illness continues three months after the birth.

Being a cautious lot, insurance companies will be especially wary of any profession that carries a degree of risk.

So while the white collar occupations (doctors, dentists and clerical workers) are the most acceptable, anyone who is a professional, parachutist, steepjack or bomb disposal expert will be told politely to look elsewhere for cover. Miners working on the surface

might be able to find a sympathetic insurer, but not face workers.

The most controversial aspect of this market is the automatic premium loadings placed on female applicants. The only companies that will even consider insuring housewives are Commercial Union, Norwich Union, Permanent and Phoenix. The loading for working women is as much as 50 per cent extra on the basic premium for many policies.

The insurers justify this by saying that women are more prone to bouts of illness and infirmity, without exception it seems. A legal battle is soon to

commence between a female dentist (backed by the Equal Opportunities Commission) and Friends' Provident Life Office. She is challenging the life company's right to charge her 50 per cent more than one of her male counterparts and if she wins there is likely to be some drastic rerating in this market.

Variances in premium will also occur depending on the deferred period chosen. This is the insurer's grace period between the onset of disability and the first benefit payment. In theory at least, the longer the deferred period the lower the premium will be.

London Life, whose premium rates are highly competitive, will not generally allow deferred periods of less than 13 weeks. Permanent, hot on its heels is slightly less strict allowing 4 weeks.

Actual benefit payable under an individual PHI policy will be limited to 75 per cent on the insured's previous earnings, including state or any other sickness or retirement benefit.

In most cases the assessment will include only benefit payable to the insured. A cash limit on policy benefit is also set which is worth double checking if your usual income is especially high, or fluctuating.

Just over half the companies in the survey include an option to increase the sum insured without further medical evidence, to make sure the policy maintains its value. This option is usually only available to policyholders under 45 years old. Although the benefits rise there is a price to pay. Both benefits and premiums may be linked to rises in the Retail Price Index.

Companies listed quoted the most competitive rates in a survey carried out in the current issue of Money Management. One scheme, introduced this summer by Continental Life, offers a tax-free lump sum at the end of the policy term: a sort of with-profits PHI, which provides possibly a better incentive for buying PHI in the first place.

Richard Newell

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£5,000 or more	8.35%	11.93%
£20,000 or more	8.60%	12.29%

*The rate may vary.

†Equivalent yield for basic rate taxpayers.

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FREE PRIZE DRAW

We guarantee to turn £500 of penny shares into £1,000 in just six weeks.



At 9pm on Thursday 21st February 1985 we'll prove, conclusively, that it is still possible to double your money in just six weeks by investing in penny shares.

THE EXPERTS' EXPERT

Stockmarket Confidential (or SMC for short) is a rather unassuming looking news sheet which is sent, by first class post, every Wednesday evening.

Despite its innocuous appearance it is eagerly read on Thursday morning by a handful of investors up and down the country.

Some of these investors will be professional stockbrokers, heads of industry and other leading financial experts. Between them they may control, literally, millions of pounds.

Others will be smaller, private investors sometimes with as little as £500 or £1,000 with which to speculate.

But what every reader of Stockmarket Confidential has in common is the desire to discover what is likely to happen on the stock market that coming week.

Simply, they want to know which shares are going to go up, and which shares are going to come down. And they want to know why.

THE SECRET OF INVESTMENT SUCCESS

The only way to make money on the stock market is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the word gets around and prices rocket.

In Stockmarket Confidential we make buying and selling recommendations, offer sound investment analysis and, most important of all, suggest one or more "Hot Tips" for the week.

If you haven't acted on our "Hot Tips" by Thursday lunchtime you've missed the boat - other SMC subscribers will have already pushed prices up.

You'll discover that very often the best investments are the "bunny shares"... SMC's Special Explorer, for instance, which rocketed from 12p to 85p in just 42 days... Bellair Cosmetics from 22p to £10.50... Dollands Photographic from 27p to £23.23... just three examples from a long list of recently successful "penny shares".

WHY YOU CAN ACT WITH SUCH CONFIDENCE

Each week the editor of SMC chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers. At the end of the meeting they will have chosen the three hottest tips and decided whether or not to sell shares previously recommended.

HOW WE WILL PROVE THE SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE

As we've already explained, we believe it is still regularly possible to double your money in as little as six weeks by trading in penny shares.

In order to prove it we will enter your name in our next Free Prize Draw which takes place on

PROFIT RECORD SINCE 19th SEPTEMBER 1984

It's all very well knowing what to buy - the real secret is knowing what to sell. This is our full "sell" record since the 19th September 1984.

Share	Share	Bought	Sold	% Gain
Lancashire Group	27p	58p	54p	54%
Ratcliffe (GB)	26p	1.17p	1.17p	100%
Chubb & Co.	1.28p	2.80p	2.80p	100%
Urban Walker	1.50p	1.50p	1.50p	100%
Daily Packing	1.50p	1.50p	1.50p	100%
Manchester	1.40p	2.40p	2.40p	100%
Ship Canal	1.40p	2.40p	2.40p	100%
SSC International	1.40p	2.40p	2.40p	100%
C.B. Bailey	1.40p	2.40p	2.40p	100%
London & Continental	1.40p	2.40p	2.40p	100%
Buildings	27p	1.56p	1.56p	468%
Colliers Stores	2.40p	4.36p	4.36p	79%
Stans and Robbins	2.40p	4.36p	4.36p	82%
Ryan Bros	2.40p	1.97p	1.97p	128%
Haynes Publishing	1.80p	2.80p	2.80p	55%

* All percentage gains allow for dealing costs.

4th January 1985, all you need do is complete and return the coupon below.

If you win, you'll receive £2500 to spend or invest as you please.

We'd suggest that you invest it in any one of our "Hot Tips" for that week. Because if you do, and your £2500 of shares aren't worth £1,000 by 21st February 1985, we'll make up the difference in cash.

That's right, we're so confident that our advice is sound we believe that £2500 will be worth £1,000 in just six weeks!

Response is welcome to enter this Free Prize Draw. No purchase is necessary. Full rules on request.

Without obligation

Please send to: STOCKMARKET CONFIDENTIAL, 57/61 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7TD

It will cost you nothing to discover how profitable the information in SMC can be. Order your six free issues and enter the Free Prize Draw today!

Please enter me in the £1000 Free Prize Draw

Please send me FREE "How to make more money on the stock market" (Shareholders only)

If I decide to subscribe I will receive my first year's subscription for just £72.

SMC WEEKLY CONTENTS

* One or more "Hot Tips" - act by Thursday lunchtime before other subscribers push up the prices.

* Portfolio monitor - watching shares already tipped and recommending sells where appropriate.

* Investment analysis including gold, building societies and gilts.

* Valuable inside information for long term capital growth.

As a subscriber you will be given a "Hot Tip Hotline" phone number, so that if you're away from home on a Thursday you can hear a summary of that week's SMC.

FREE GUIDE FOR FIRST TIME SUBSCRIBERS

SMC was originally published to help only experienced investors.

But its of equal value to first timers. If you've never invested in the stock market before we'll send you, absolutely free, parts one and two of "How to make more money on the stock market" a unique guide written specifically for subscribers to SMC.

FREE SIX TRIAL ISSUES

Of course, share prices can go down, as well as up. But we don't want you to risk a penny of your own money until you're convinced that you will make a profit by acting on our advice.

So if you return the completed delayed action standing order below, we'll rush you the next six issues of SMC absolutely free.

This way you can profit from our experts' invaluable advice for six weeks at no cost to yourself.

If you're not convinced that the vital information which SMC contains is worth £144 a year, then just write to your bank and cancel your banker's order before the payment date.

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But you must order by 31st December 1984.

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This Christmas give the gift and the taxman

How your gift

FAMILY MONEY

Safety first

With household contents insurance premiums rocketing in metropolitan areas, it might be worth considering a safe deposit box for your valuables as a means of reducing the cost of insurance.

The latest to offer this service is the Belgrave Safe Deposit, in Chester Mews, near Hyde Park Corner - very handy for picking up your jewels on the way to Buckingham Palace.

The safe deposit is open from 9am to 5pm daily and from 12 noon to 9pm on Sundays. If you sign up now you will get special concessionary rates. A 60mm box costs £150 a year including VAT. A 300mm box costs £455 a year.

Anyone taking a box before January 31 will receive a mug of champagne. Details from the Belgrave Safe Deposit, 9 Chester Mews, London SW1X 7AJ. Tel: 01-245 6744.

Good deal for young

One of the best deals around for children's savings is the 10 per cent paid by Sheffield Building Society on its Children's High Interest Account. A parent or grandparent has to be an

investor too for the child to qualify and there is a maximum investment on the account of £500. Details from Sheffield Building Society, 66 Campo Lane, Sheffield S1 2EG.

Growth bond

Pinnacle Insurance is offering a five-year guaranteed income or growth bond paying 8.5 per cent net of basic rate tax. The minimum investment is £1,000. Full details are available from Pinnacle Insurance, 312 High Road, London N15 4BX. Tel: 01-801 3361.

Gold Card profile

About 88 per cent of American Express's Gold Card holders are male, 88 per cent are married and on average they have 2.1 children. Just over 40 per cent are self-employed and nearly two-thirds are company directors or partners. About 20 per cent are in finance and insurance, 17 per cent in service industries and 15 per cent in manufacturing.

One in five owns two homes and there are generally two cars in the garage. Four out of ten have a home computer.



"Only eleven shopping days to Christmas" and 2 per cent own racchosaurs. To qualify for a Gold Card you have to earn at least £25,000 a year, but the average income among Amex's Gold Card members in Britain is more like £39,000.

Holiday tax

Top performing salesmen who receive a free holiday when reaching a target will have to pay tax on these benefits, according to accountants Dearden Farrow.

But the Inland Revenue has recently introduced a voluntary scheme under which providers of non-cash awards, whether to their own employees or the employees of a third party, will be able to pay the basic rate tax liability on the grossed up value of the award on behalf of the individual. Enquiries should be sent to Inland Revenue Incentive Valuation Unit, 27 Broadwick Street, London W1B 2AE. Tel: 01-734 1896.

Fixed income offer

A guaranteed income account paying 8.25 per cent net of basic rate tax is available from Chase de Vere Investments. The account guarantees to pay a fixed 8.25 per cent over the two-year period, during which you have to leave your money untouched. Some building societies may currently be paying higher rates than this but, of

course, the return is not fixed and will vary depending on how interest rates move. Details are available from Chase de Vere Investments, 24 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3ED.

Repairs warning

Council house tenants who arrange to have their own repairs carried out, rather than waiting for the council to do them could end up paying the bill, according to the National Consumer Council. Commenting on the Department of the Environment's draft "Right to Repair" regulations, the NCC expressed concern that the procedures are so complex that most tenants will not be able to make head nor tail of them.

Some tenants could lose money at the hands of unscrupulous builders who offer to do the paperwork as well as repairs. And if the paperwork is not sent in and approved by the local council, tenants will have to bear the brunt of the costs.

The regulations under the Housing and Building Control Act 1984 would give council tenants the right to have repairs

costing between £20 and £200 carried out by themselves or builder, at the local council's expense - provided the council agrees first.

Pensions protest

Company clients of Sedgwick, the benefit consultants, are none too keen on the government's proposals for portable pensions. Sedgwick sent a questionnaire to all its corporate customers and the general feeling was that their employees would be vulnerable to hard sell pension salesmen. "The Government is giving glibble members the freedom to cut their own throats" was the response from one Sedgwick client.

A recurrent theme for comment was that younger members in particular might be misled into acting against their best interests by exaggerated claims for personal pension plans.

Meanwhile the giant Prudential is not very enthusiastic about the Government's proposals either. It has produced a booklet, *The Pru's View of Portable Pensions*, which is available free on Teledata 01-200 0200 or from the Pru, Freepost London EC1B 1PD.

SPORT

A friendly offer for youth year

Sports club fund raisers are being turned into financial salesmen by a canny scheme launched this week by GT Management to mark the International Year of Youth which dawned next year.

Sports clubs will be allowed to put £20 into their coffers for every GT Sports Bond that is sold. The bond is invested through the New Life Friendly Society in GT's International Fund and a building society and qualifies for all the tax privileges on offer through a friendly society.

In the last Budget the Chancellor abolished life insurance premium relief and cut the maximum contribution to a friendly society to £100 a year or £9 a month. But he also scrapped the restriction that only married people or those with children could take out a friendly society policy.

GT has halved the normal commission from £40 to £20 to cover the extra costs involved in selling through sports clubs rather than established financial intermediaries.

Mr Dick Jeeps, chairman of the Sports Council, said: "I will be disappointed if even in the first year of promotion we do not raise £1m - very small beer from the total numbers that take part in sports".

Vivien Goldsmith

INVESTMENT

Beware selling your Telecom shares before they arrive

No one expected British Telecom shares to rise by almost 100 per cent on the initial investment. The best estimates had expected a price of about 80p although most experts had provided between 60p and 70p as a starting price.

So what should private investors do? Some people will have bought shares to sell quickly whatever the price; others will have bought them to hold on to whatever the price. But many, seeing these unexpected potential gains, must be wavering.

As one stock broker put it: "Who can argue with a profit of 70 per cent or more? You hardly see that sort of increase every week." By selling now you forgo the vouchers or bonus shares attached to the issue but you also avoid having to pay the next two instalments of the purchase price.

There are, of course, still strong arguments for hanging on and taking your vouchers at least before selling.

The highest yield on the vouchers can be gained only by having the exact amount of shares. A holder of 600 will get vouchers for only 400. The extra 200 shares are simply diluting his yield and are probably best sold.

Shareholders who decide to sell their holdings early should bear in mind at least two things. The letters of allocation telling each shareholder exactly how many shares he has to sell will be dropping through letter boxes next week. As soon as they do, there is almost certain to be a rush of people hoping to take advantage of the high price of Telecom shares by getting rid of their holdings.

Brokers expect this to lead to a sharp fall in the share price next week. This weakness, however, may not last. The large institutions, such as pension funds and insurance companies, are still eager to buy Telecom shares and after the rush of selling their continued buying activity is likely to push the price back up again.

So if the share price takes the predicted tumble, wise investors should delay selling their shares until the market stabilizes.

The other consideration concerns the allocation letter. These are not being sent out until Monday, so Tuesday is the earliest anyone is likely to receive one. If you sell your shares before you receive the letter and your allocation you could run into trouble. Years ago, have been one of the applications which was completed incorrectly.

If you sell more shares than you actually receive (and you may get none at all) you will

almost certainly have to buy back the excess at the current market price. So if the price has risen between the time of the sale and the time you find you have to buy them back you will end up with a net loss.

Many investors are likely to find that they cannot sell their shares without an allocation letter. Almost all stock brokers, including most of those mentioned in the prospectus, will not sell the shares of unknown clients without seeing the allocation letter first.

This is normal precaution but means that unless you already have dealings with a broker you will probably have to wait for your letter.

The alternative to brokers are the banks. Your bank may well not insist on seeing the allocation letter since they will already know you through your bank account. But it is hard to generalize. Lloyds Bank, for example, is leaving the decision up to each branch manager.

Since the scaling down of allocations has meant that many people have ended up with smaller holdings than they expected, many sales will be for quite small amounts. But the commission rates paid to brokers or banks is unlikely to vary much whether you are selling 200 or 600 shares.

The cheapest dealing rates, offered by the brokers named in the prospectus but also by others, is a flat £7 fee on sales of 200 or 400 shares. Above this they are likely to start charging 1.65 per cent of the sale proceeds. Some brokers may charge a higher minimum, often about £10, but will extend this to amounts of 500 or 600 shares.

If you are selling through a bank, the charge will be the same since the bank simply splits the commission with the broker. It will probably not charge a handling fee. It is worth checking with the bank before selling, to find out what the fees of its broker are.

Normally, dealing in such small amounts of shares is extremely uneconomical because of the broker's fees you have to pay, but if the Telecom share price holds at present levels, £7 will not be much to pay in comparison with profit you would get on even 100 shares.

Once the shares have started to trade on the stock market you might want to "stag" them - sell within a few days if the price rises to a premium. BT provides a list of brokers who are willing to deal in the shares at special rates.

Richard Thomson

SAVINGS

The small investor's money at risk

More than £1 million of investors' money is at risk - frozen by the Official Receiver who has been called in to deal with the affairs of Eastcheap Investments, licensed deposit takers.

One investor, Mr Ian Philion, stands to lose about £126,000, the entire sale proceeds of his house which he deposited with Eastcheap in July. "I don't understand what's gone wrong," I checked with the Bank of England's supervisory depart-

ment and I had a company search carried out on Eastcheap. The Bank official confirmed that Eastcheap was a licensed deposit taker and the search came up with nothing, so I thought my money was safe. I put the money on deposit on the advice of my mortgage broker.

"I wanted to get the best return possible before I used the cash to buy another house. What I didn't know was that on August 17 Eastcheap surren-

dered its licence. I feel that I ought to have been informed of this. On October 2 I gave one month's notice of withdrawal of my money, as required, but when I went to pick it up on November 2, I was told I couldn't have it because the official receiver was dealing with things."

The official receiver was called in by the Bank of England, using its powers under the 1979 Banking Act.

Mr Philion was under the

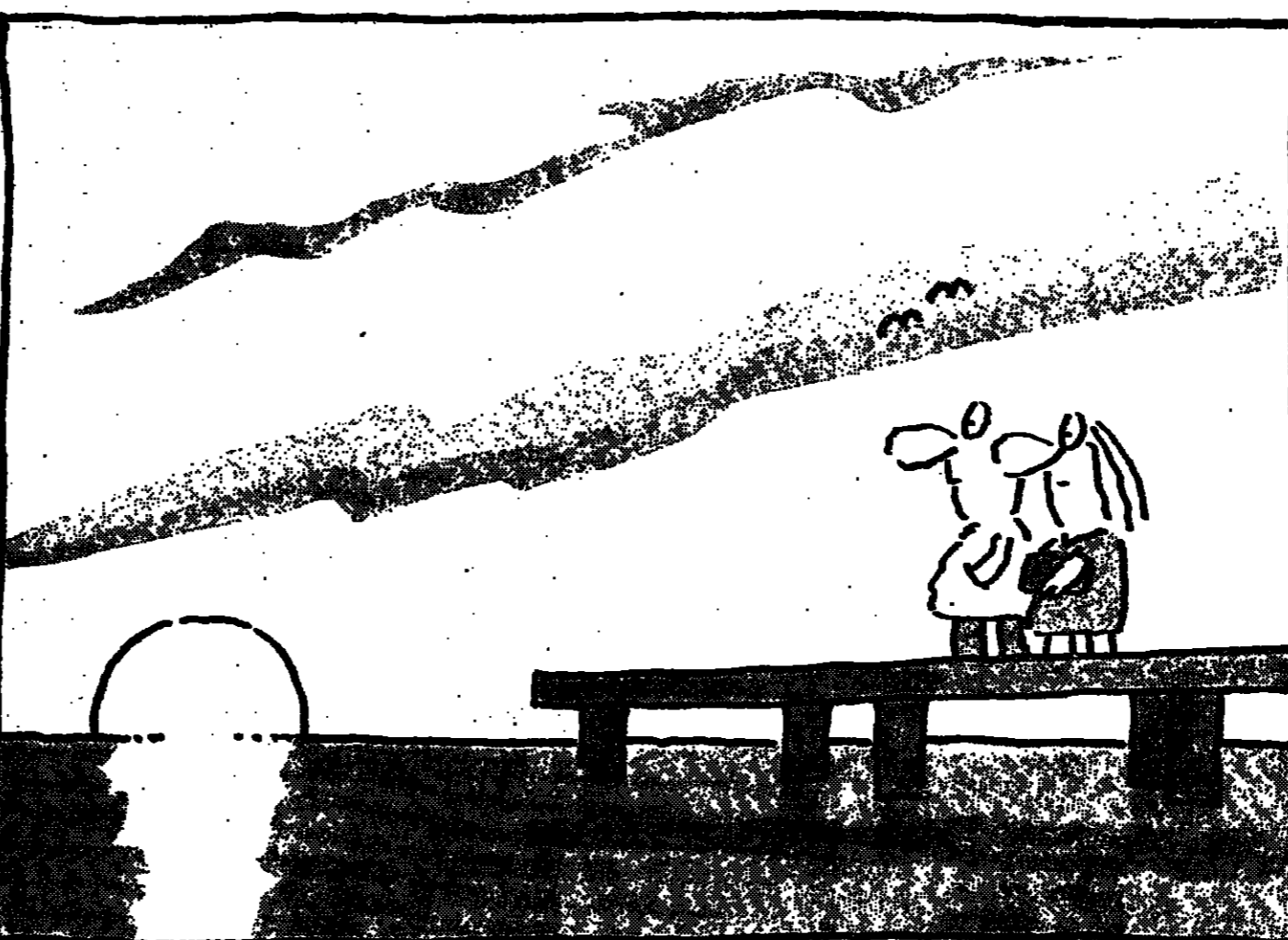
impression that, provided Eastcheap was a licensed deposit taker, in the event of collapse he would be reimbursed in full. But the 1979 Banking Act only gives compensation of 75 per cent of any deposit up to a maximum of £10,000, so the most Mr Philion will receive from that quarter will be £7,500.

Depositors should have a clearer view on December 17 when there is a hearing in the High Court and a decision will be made on whether to go ahead

and liquidate Eastcheap. "It is certainly hoped that the Bank of England moved in sufficient time to safeguard the interests of depositors", a Bank official said.

But, licensed deposit takers which offer higher interest rates to investors are often forced to lend to less than A1 credit risks, as these are the only borrowers prepared to pay over the odds for their money. For this reason, it might not be possible to round up all depositors' cash.

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America proves a poor home for investors

Interest rates came down on both sides of the Atlantic last month. The big question now, in view of Wall Street's influence on other world stock markets, is whether the lower levels will hold.

The answer to that very much depends on what President Reagan plans to do about his massive budget deficit. Cuts on social spending and other welfare benefits do not seem likely with a Democratic-dominated Congress.

So will the President cut his main item of budget proposals which go to Congress in January. Until then Wall Street will be hostage to rumour and uncertainty, which is not good news for the stock market.

The American equity market, then, looks likely to end the year on a cautious note. It has been a dismal investment home for a lot of unit trust investors recently. Only two funds, Royal London American Growth and S & W American have matched the 20.7 per cent gain of the Standard & Poor's Composite index, after allowing for currency adjustments over the past twelve months.

More than half of the US specialist trusts have not managed a gain. And some investors have been left nursing a sizeable loss. Anyone backing N. M. Rothschild's New Court America over the past year has

*Current value of £100 invested over 11 months to December 1, 1984

Unit trust	£
Fidelity Japan	150.6
Manulife High Income	144.9
Key Equity and General	140.8
Govett Japan Growth	140.7
S & P Japan Smaller Cos	140.0
Oppenheimer Income & Growth	138.0
Abbey Japan	137.9
Wardley Income	136.5
M & G Midland & General	136.4
Barrington High Yield	136.2

*Offer to offer - net income reinvested
Source: Planned Savings Magazine

seen an offer price fall of nearly 19 per cent and investors in Aiken Hume's American Technology Fund are more than 25 per cent worse off.

On this side of the Atlantic, lower interest rates were a welcome fillip to a market keyed up to the British Telecom flotation. The FT Actuaries All-Share index added a further 3 per cent over the month to break into new high ground.

Certainly Britain over the last year has been a more rewarding investment than the US for many unit trust managers and investors. Top performers in the home market, for example, Target Special Situations predominantly a domestic fund, and Manulife High Income have

almost doubled the gain of the All Share index.

Well over 40 per cent of British invested trusts have outpaced the index, only a handful of funds, Arbutnot Smaller Companies, Buckmaster Smaller Companies, Brianna Special Market Situations and the 3 i's & Target Smaller Companies record a fall.

Of the leading markets, Japan has proved the best performer. The Tokyo New Stock Exchange index ended last month at another new peak. Fidelity Japan has been the clear winner in the sector over the past year.

Mike Hockings

CHARGE CARDS

Earning a 'divi' from Diners

Diners Club, the charge card company, is introducing a system of incentives for its customers.

The company gives you a personal monthly spending target, based on the average monthly amount you spent with your card the year before. For every month in which you spend up to your monthly target you get 10 dividends. And for every £25 you spend over the target you get a further five dividends.

So what do you get? The goods available range from video recorders and cameras to discounts on holidays and magazine subscriptions. And if you reach a six-month target you are automatically entered in a competition which has prizes including a Fiat Strada and first-class flights to Hong Kong.

But the scheme has two big drawbacks.

The first is that it could take years or excessive expenditure to accumulate enough dividends to "buy" many of the items.

This is aggravated by the fact that your monthly target depends on your spending record. So if you spend more, encouraged by the gifts on offer, your target will be raised for the following year. You will therefore have to spend more to get the same number of dividends as the year before.

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SEVEN DAY ACCOUNT**



ABBEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY,
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FOOTBALL: REVIE MISSES CHANCE TO RE-JOIN PRECARIOUS HIGH LIFE

QPR will remain without a manager

Queen's Park Rangers announced yesterday that they have no immediate plans to fill their vacancy at manager after negotiations with Don Revie, the former England manager, broke down late on Thursday night when he increased his demands, according to Jim Gregory, the Rangers chairman (Clive White writes).

In the meantime they had asked Chelsea if they could speak to John Hollins, their coach, but were refused permission. Frank Sibley, the Rangers coach and a former manager of the club, will continue in his capacity as caretaker.

Revie said that he was "very confused" at Rangers' decision not to appoint him. He denied that he had asked for more money than had originally been anticipated. "When I first spoke to Mr Gregory on Wednesday I asked him for a certain salary for a six-month contract and he told me he didn't think there would be any problems," Revie said. "I didn't ask for more money, but after talking to my financial adviser I just wanted a slight change in the way the money would be paid to me."

"I didn't think that this would make any difference and Mr Gregory didn't give me the impression that this would cause serious problems either. Later in the evening he telephoned and said 'Hello, Don... on deal' and put the phone down before I could say anything. I don't want to get involved in a slanging match, but if I can't help doubting that he was really serious about wanting me to join QPR, while I would love the challenge of becoming a Football League manager again, I don't think I should have got involved in the QPR post."

Hollins said it was "very flattering" to be considered for the job. Hollins, who has a three-year contract, said: "I have a job and I'll keep going and I'll be happy to see 'Clear off' or 'You can do what you want'."

Rangers last night signed Bobby Campbell, the former Portsmouth manager, on a temporary basis to help Sibley with the coaching.

Top men manage to stay cool in their hot seats

By Clive White

The dismissals of Alan Mullery from Queen's Park Rangers and Colin Appleton from Swansea City this week must have made more than a few managers squirm in their hot seats. But considering the increased demands on them by boards these days (and sometimes the other way around), several managers who have been flitting with resignation from the first division can still look up the office at night confident that their chair will be there tomorrow.

Probably no more than three managers in the first division will sit in the stands or the dug-out today in a cold sweat. But for those managers whose teams are parked in the relegation zone to carry on feeling free from the threat of relegation, they must give their directors proof that either they will get the team moving or that no-one else could.

Graham Taylor, whose Watford side stood bottom of the table only four weeks ago, said that he never felt that his job was in danger. It might be thought that the massive success of his team, given them a minimum time had guaranteed his job at Vicarage Road for as long as Elton John stays in the charts. But he said yesterday: "Success can rebound on you. People get used to winning."

Bill Asprey, the Stoke City manager, has had to keep telling his directors that ever since Watford, who play at the Britannia Stadium today, took off from the bottom today on a flight of eight games without defeat. Asprey, like David Pleat at Luton Town, has had to try to convince his board that no one else could do better.

Essentially, though, it is the same team who fought so well to avoid relegation last season. This time their position looks hopeless, seven points adrift of the relegation zone. They will have few better chances to close the gap than today when they play the team in nineteenth place, Ipswich Town, at the Victoria Ground.

Bobby Ferguson, the Ipswich manager, is another who has had to battle against a successful past. His job would have been in jeopardy at many less patient clubs last season when relegation loomed large.



Staying alive: Taylor (top), Ferguson (left) and Pleat, all adept at the survival game

A quarter-final place in the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup is what Southampton's Williams wanted. Ron Atkinson, the manager, has decided that though he will probably need Olsen, his Danish wizard, then, he does not need him at Southampton. Olsen's place, with Hughes suspended and Whiteside injured, Supleston and Brazil will join forces for the first time in a full league game.

Atkinson was not the only manager. I imagine who is chasing but Ron Atkinson, the Southampton manager, has decided that though he will probably need Olsen, his Danish wizard, then, he does not need him at Southampton. Olsen's place, with Hughes suspended and Whiteside injured, Supleston and Brazil will join forces for the first time in a full league game.

done well in his absence. Discussions over the future of Southampton's Williams wanted. Ron Atkinson, the manager, has decided that though he will probably need Olsen, his Danish wizard, then, he does not need him at Southampton. Olsen's place, with Hughes suspended and Whiteside injured, Supleston and Brazil will join forces for the first time in a full league game.

The vitality of Heath, who is out for the rest of the season, could be crucially missed by Everton. Gray takes his place as partner to Sharp at Luton Road but you can be sure Howard Kendall, the manager, has been ringing around for alternatives since the bad news about Heath last Sunday. Jim Gregory, the Rangers chairman, is another who has spent most of the week on the telephone trying to find an alternative. In the meantime Frank Sibley is keeping the hot seat warm and he exercised his temporary powers by adding Stewart and Freedy to his squad.

Rival trios hold key to success

By Hugh Taylor

The winners of a fascinating inner contest hold the key to the result of the most interesting premier division match of the season. Aberdeen and Celtic at Pittodrie today. Can the international triumvirate of Miller, McLeish and Leighton, who are the key men in the most uncharitable defence in Britain in recent seasons, keep at bay the equally impressive defence of Johnston, McGee and McClair, who have each scored three goals in a match in Celtic's scoring run of 17 goals in their last three matches?

Cannot Celtic, the most prolific scoring club in Britain this season with 41 goals, win through the championship race wide open. They are three points behind Aberdeen, the leaders, and such has been their recent stunning form that they are convinced they have the quality of attackers to upset even the redoubtable Aberdeen defenders and cut their opponents' lead to one point.

Notwithstanding, Aberdeen remain confident of victory. In spite of the loss of players of the quality of Strachan, McGee and Rougier, they are still the country's most formidable team, masters of organisation and their record of dropping only three points in 17 games indicates.

While Celtic's recent devastating feats of scoring suggest the more spectacular team, the goal difference in their rivals is exactly the same. Aberdeen have conceded only nine goals to Celtic's 12, and they have scored 8, a fact which brings a sniff from Alex Ferguson, the manager, who does not concede that the crucial match is merely a contest between his defence and Celtic's attack. "Don't forget," he points out, "that we, too, have forwards of real class."

Weir, the international winger, has returned to splendid form. McDougall is an avid snatcher of even half-chances, and Black is reckoned perhaps the most promising of all Scotland's young forwards. Celtic, however, have more flair in midfield, and it may be that the skill of McStay will also play a big part in deciding the result of a game which is not likely to become too physical, should illustrate all the skills that are again making Scottish football so glittering. A draw is a likely result.

There is also promise of drama at Ibrox. Rangers seek revenge on Heart of Midlothian for an earlier defeat this season, but they may be helped by McCloy, their veteran goalkeeper.

France field 'magic four'
PARIS (Reuters) - France are hoping that their rejuvenated midfield will help them to a third World Cup qualifying victory in today's match here with East Germany. They are fielding the "magic four" of Platini, Giresse, Tigane and Fernandez for the first time since they won the European trophy by beating Spain 2-0 in the final in June.

Non-League sides face uphill battle

By Paul Newman

There is no moment quite like the draw for the third round of the FA Cup, which will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 2 at 5.30 this afternoon.

This year, however, there is a chance that no non-League club will go into the draw. Of the nine playing in this afternoon's second round matches, none have been paired together, only three are at home and six face third rather than fourth division opposition.

Altrincham, Enfield, Telford United and Northwich Victoria, the four most successful giant-killers in recent times, all fall into the latter category, and only Altrincham have home advantage. Their task against Peterborough, United, who are challenging for promotion but have won only one of nine away league games, Bournemouth who visited Darford, have a similar away record in the third division, and needed two matches to beat Kettering town in the last round.

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Bamber on his way to Portsmouth

Portsmouth are about to sign the Walsall forward Dave Bamber, and Middlesbrough's Paul Sugrue, a former Coventry player. Bamber will cost £200,000. Sugrue, a midfielder, will move on a free transfer if he agrees terms.

The Aston Villa defender Brendan Ormsby, yesterday came off the transfer list at his own request. The 24-year-old defender, who has been a player asked for a move earlier in the season when he thought he had no first-team future. But since replacing Steve Foster, who last week moved to Luton, Ormsby has played 12 consecutive games.

Les Chappell has been appointed Swansea City's caretaker manager following the dismissal of Colin Appleton and his assistant, Colin Melldrum. It is the second time this year that the struggling Welsh club have turned to their reserve team coach after sacking a manager. Chappell took over from Melldrum, who was dismissed last week.

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Chances missed in easy victory may be regretted later

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Zurbriggen heads the rest of the world

Puy Saint-Vincent, France (Reuters)

It was the first of the world's great slalom races, the men's World Cup super-giant slalom here yesterday. Zurbriggen, the defending overall World Cup champion, recorded 1min 43.89sec to win by the wide margin of nearly a second from Marc Girardelli.

Girardelli, an Austrian who races for Luxembourg, was second through the 36-gate piste, in 1:44.80 and Thomas Brugg of Switzerland third in 1:45.10 on a cold, clear day with good snow conditions. Girardelli, who won the opening slalom of the men's World Cup season in Sestriere, Italy, last Sunday, said he lost time by misjudging some of the turns on the 1.968 metre track.

It was the second World Cup victory for Zurbriggen in two days, following the women's downhill win by Zee Haas.

The race provided a first World Cup outing of the season for the Olympic downhill champion, Bill Johnson of the United States, and for several other downhillers, who were denied their scheduled specialty this week because of a lack of snow in Val d'Isere.

RESULTS: Zurbriggen (Swiss) 1st 1:43.89sec; 2. Brugg (Swiss) 1:44.80; 3. T. Brugg (Swiss) 1:45.10; 4. M. Wenzel (West Germany) 1:45.72; 5. P. Brugg (Swiss) 1:46.10; 6. P. Brugg (Swiss) 1:46.10; 7. P. Brugg (Swiss) 1:46.10; 8. P. Brugg (Swiss) 1:46.10; 9. P. Brugg (Swiss) 1:46.10; 10. P. Brugg (Swiss) 1:46.10.

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BBC plans public campaign for licence increase

By David Hewson

The BBC is to make an unprecedented appeal for support from television viewers for an increase in its licence fee, at the risk of offending the Home Office.

Corporation officials are planning a campaign to explain the BBC's case for a rise in the licence from its present £46 to about the £67 mark. It will probably begin early next year, after the delivery of an independent report on the Corporation's efficiency ordered by the Home Secretary, though it is unclear whether the report will be published.

The idea of a BBC public campaign on the licence fee is unlikely to be popular with the Home Office. Past licence fee increases have tended to be handled out of the public gaze, and in 1978 political controversy was sparked when the BBC revealed its spending requirements in a newspaper interview.

The Corporation delivered its case for a new licence fee to the Home Office two weeks ago, and wants to allow a decent interval to elapse before the campaign goes public.

The Corporation's chairman, Mr Stuart Young, is particularly keen to see the BBC make its case to the public, and believes that it can argue forcefully that its new demands represent good value for viewers.

A number of MPs are expected to criticize such a move, however, seeing it as a break with the traditional relationship between the Corporation and Parliament.

Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State at the Home Office, refused to divulge the details of the BBC's licence fee request yesterday. In a written reply, he said that the Home Secretary would not disclose details or the precise way in which he would examine the issue.

A settlement of the licence fee issue is unlikely until close to March 31, when the present settlement expires. It is thought highly unlikely that the Government will accede to pressure to force the BBC to raise some of its funds from advertising in the present licence fee agreement.

One possibility may be the creation of an inquiry into alternative methods of paying for the Corporation.

Threat to monopoly on TV programme listings

By a Staff Reporter

The Office of Fair Trading is expected to recommend next week an end to the Radio Times and TV Times monopoly on publishing television programme details.

The move follows a nine-month investigation by the OFT into the lucrative copyright hold on programme listings, which is vigorously enforced by the BBC, through Radio Times, and the ITV companies, which own TV Times.

Evidence was taken from a number of private publishers who are eager to print independent television magazines. They say that Britain is probably the only country in the world where a consumer must buy two magazines to get programme details for a week's television viewing.

If the OFT report concludes

that the monopoly is against the public interest, and this view is supported by the Government, the action will end the biggest money-spinning publishing monopoly in the country.

Radio Times and TV Times are the two most popular magazines in Britain, with a total circulation of nearly 6.5 million. But their critics claim that much of their popularity stems from the copyright restrictions.

Newspapers can run full listings for only a day a week, except at weekends when they are allowed two days of programmes. Magazines, however, can provide only selective details of forthcoming programmes.

It is unlikely that the OFT report will have an immediate impact on the monopoly.



Paras: The Army Photograph of the Year, taken on patrol in Belize in July 1983, by Sergeant James Patrick Gallacher. The judges were Paddy Hicks (picture editor, Press Association); Terry Fincher (freelance photographer); and Brian Harris (photographer, The Times).

Carbide chief must flee India

Continued from page 1

The Ministry of External Affairs, but he was allowed to leave Delhi Airport with US Embassy officials. Madhya Pradesh intelligence officers accompanied him to Delhi.

Mr Arjun Singh, the state Chief Minister, who ordered the arrests, said that on the basis of available facts "each one of them had criminal liability".

He added: "This government cannot remain a helpless spectator to the tragedy, and it knows its duty towards thousands of innocent citizens whose lives have been so cruelly and traumatically affected by cruel and wanton negligence on

the part of the Union Carbide management."

"This will be done because his presence might provoke strong passions against him, and because we do not consider his presence in this country desirable", the spokesman, Mr Sudip Banerjee, said.

Those arrested were held in a Bhopal rest house and charged, according to the United News of India news agency, under Section 304 (A) of the Indian penal code for causing death by negligence. A court can use its discretion to release the accused on bail.

It seems that the Madhya Pradesh government decided to arrest Mr Anderson and the

others on Thursday, but the orders were secret in case the group should decide to stay away from Bhopal.

United News of India said from Bhopal that the vent gas scrubber at the pesticide plant was under repair when the highly toxic methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked from storage tanks early on Monday, killing more than 2,000 people and affecting another 100,000.

WASHINGTON: The arrest of Mr Anderson came as a surprise, an official at the company's headquarters in Danbury, Connecticut, said (Mohsin Ali writes).

Carbide can pay, Anderson profile, page 4

NUM receiver confirmed

Continued from page 1

That could not take place until well into next year at the earliest.

Mr Justice Davies based his judgement on five points. First, that the union officials had sought to "frustrate" the sequencers by sending the money abroad and had shown no willingness to repatriate it. Secondly, that the NUM's counsel had been unable to give an assurance that in future the three officials would abide by court orders.

His third point was that while taking full account of Mr Scargill's assertion that the officials were mere nominees, acting on instructions from the union's executive committee

and national delegate conference, rule 22 of its constitution said they could only carry out lawful instructions.

The fourth reason for the order, he said, was that the officials' refusal to promise to obey future court orders suggested that their future actions could bring about further depletions of union funds through fines being imposed on them.

Finally, the officials had caused the funds of the union, at least for the time being, to be unavailable for the benefit of the membership.

The NUM faces the prospect of further legal challenge from working miners next week.

Ten held in PSA bribery inquiry

By Paul Valley

Five more arrests were made yesterday in the fraud squad investigation into allegations of bribery in the Department of the Environment's Property Services Agency, which is responsible for building and maintaining the Government's £10,000 million estate.

Five civil servants were arrested at four on Thursday in police raids on their homes. Yesterday five more men were arrested and taken to Rochester Row police station in London to be questioned on allegations that civil servants had received large cash payments, free home improvements, and holidays in luxury hotels in Miami and casinos in Las Vegas.

Four of the 10 men are building contractors, one is an official of the Inner London Education Authority, four are serving officers of the Property Services Agency and the other is a retired PSA official.

Further arrests are likely next week. Det Chief Insp Richard Botwright, who is leading the inquiry, said yesterday that charges would not be made until the investigation was complete and a file had been passed to the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney General.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Thomas Hetherington, joined the investigation after allegations that civil servants awarded lucrative government contracts to private contractors who offered "perks". The inquiry is being conducted by the fraud squad's public sector corruption unit.

Customs strike draws shoppers

Thousands of bargain hunters from the Irish Republic yesterday took advantage of a 24-hour strike by customs officers to buy goods in the North, with virtually no risk of being caught smuggling.

Customs checkpoints along the 300-mile border were unmanned because of a dispute over allowances. Senior officials not on strike operated mobile patrols.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions
Room for Thought, works by Hilary Tan, Ferens Art Gallery, Queen's Victoria Square, Hull; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30, closed Dec 24, 25, 26, and 31 and Jan 1 (ends Jan 13).

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In the garden

Check all items in store - fruits, vegetables, tubers and corns. Remember that dahlias and begonias (tubers and gladioli) cannot stand freezing temperatures and so should be brought into warmth now. Three days and nights of unbroken frost can penetrate even a brick-built garage.

Remove any stored items that are showing signs of rotting.

Lift a few carrots, swedes, turnips and parsnips.

Bulbs planted in pots or bowls and plunged outdoors in soil or peat, may be ready to bring indoors. The bud of a tulip should be clear of the bulb - one can feel a slight swelling at the base of the shoot - and the bulbs may be brought in. Keep all these bulbs in a cool room for about 10 days before bringing them into living room temperatures and accustom them to full daylight gradually.

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Roads

Midlands: A423: Long delays both directions at Southam because of roadworks.

Wales and West: A419: North-bound carriageway closed at Stratford St Margaret bypass.

Swindon: Withshire: alternative routes signed. A38: North and southbound lane closures on approach to Marsh Mills roundabout.

Devon: A37: Temporary lights at Temple Cloud, Avon.

North: A58: Junction alterations in Rochdale Road, Halifax. A56: Roadworks on northbound carriageway in Washway Road, Sale.

A66: Roadworks on North Birtenshaw Bridge road, three miles E of Bowry.

Scotland: A72: Contraflow on westbound carriageway on East Kilbride expressway between Whithers roundabout (A749) East Kilbride and B7012 junction Lanarkshire; lane closures from York Place to junction with Elphinstone Street, Perth. A9: Single lane traffic with temporary lights 24hrs at A16, Ross and Cromarty.

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Weather

A frontal trough over Northern Ireland and central Scotland will move slowly SE into N Wales and N England.

London, SE, central England, East Angles, E Midlands: Fog patches clearing, sunny or bright intervals, dry with SW light, temp max 8 to 11C (45-52F).

E. central N England, W Midlands: Fog patches clearing, sunny or bright intervals, a little rain, wind SW light, temp 8 to 11C (45-52F).

Channel, Ireland, SW England, S Wales: Rather cloudy, some bright intervals, perhaps a little rain; wind SW light or moderate, temp 8 to 10C (45-50F).

N Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, fog, with SW moderate or fresh, max temp 7 to 9C (45-48F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, fog, becoming brighter but showery, with rain, wind SW, fresh or strong, locally gusty, veering NW and moderating, temp 8 to 10C (45-48F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Showers, some heavy and thundery, with rain, sunny intervals, wind SW strong, locally gale, veering NW and moderating; max temp 8 to 10C (45-48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Changeable and rather windy in N, dry with sunny intervals in S after overnight fog patches.

SEA PASSAGES: South North Sea, Strait of Dover: Windy with SW light or moderate; sea choppy. English Channel: Wind mostly light sea smooth, S. English Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW strong, veering NW moderate; sea rough with choppy swell.

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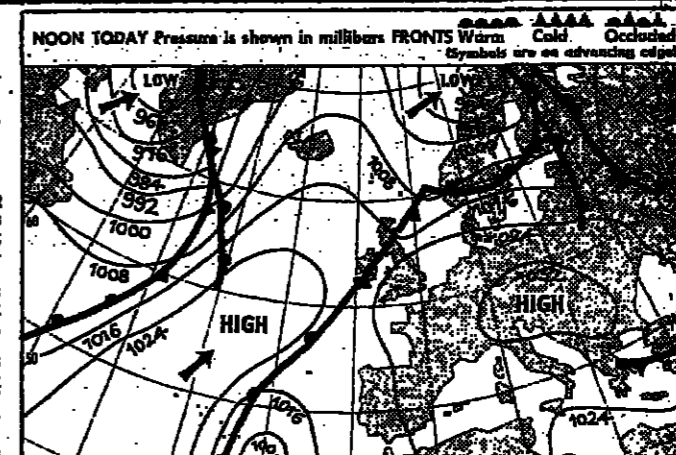
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High tides.

TODAY				TOMORROW			
AM	PM	HT	HT	AM	PM	HT	HT
London Bridge	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Aberdeen	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Amsterdam	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Belfast	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Birmingham	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Bristol	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Cardiff	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Doncaster	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Dover	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Edinburgh	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Exeter	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Gloucester	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Harwich	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Hull	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Leeds	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Liverpool	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Manchester	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Marlow	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Medway	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Millers Haven	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Northfleet	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Orford	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Pevensey	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Portsmouth	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8
Southampton	12.50	4.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	4.0	1.8</